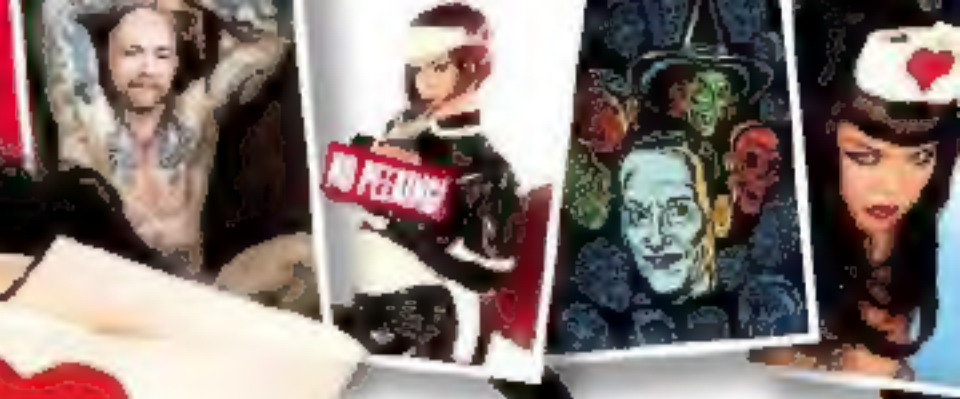


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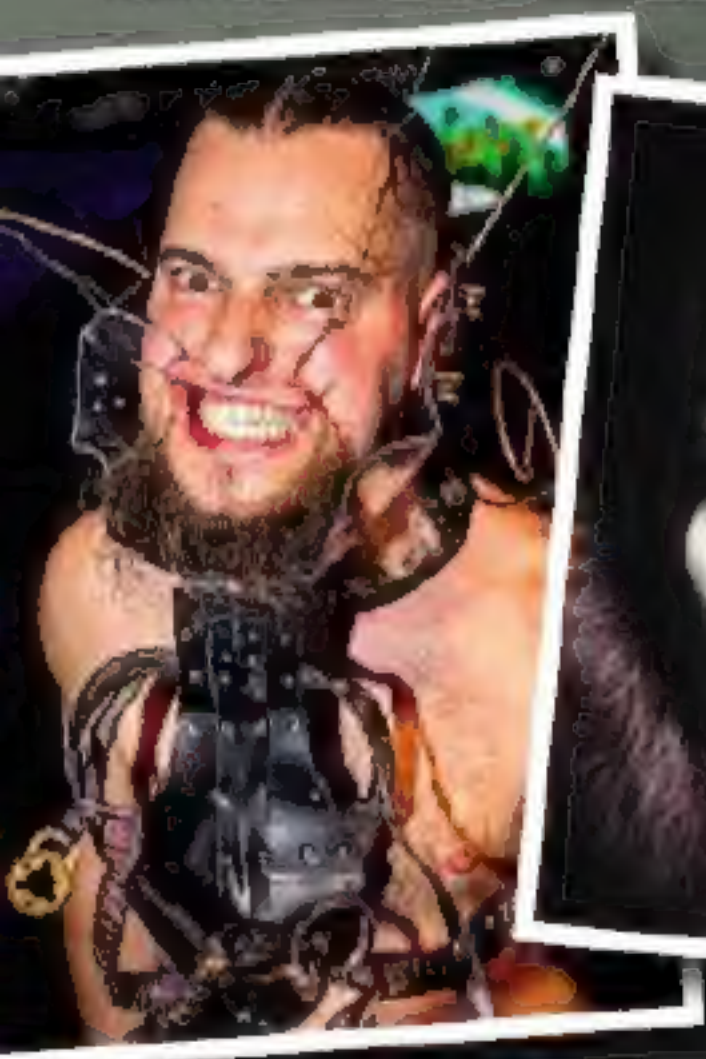
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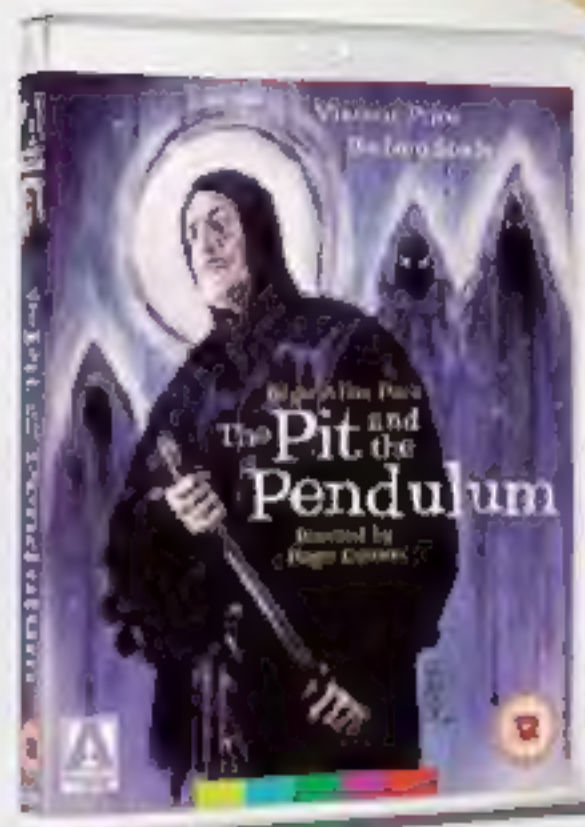
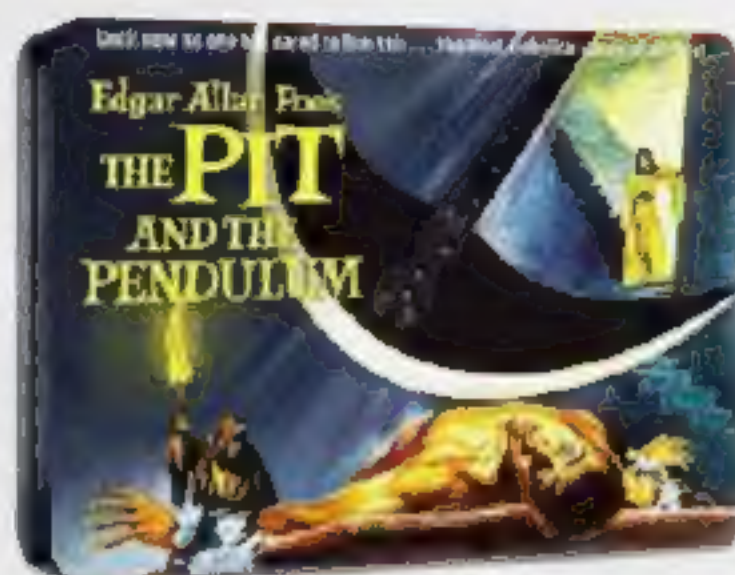
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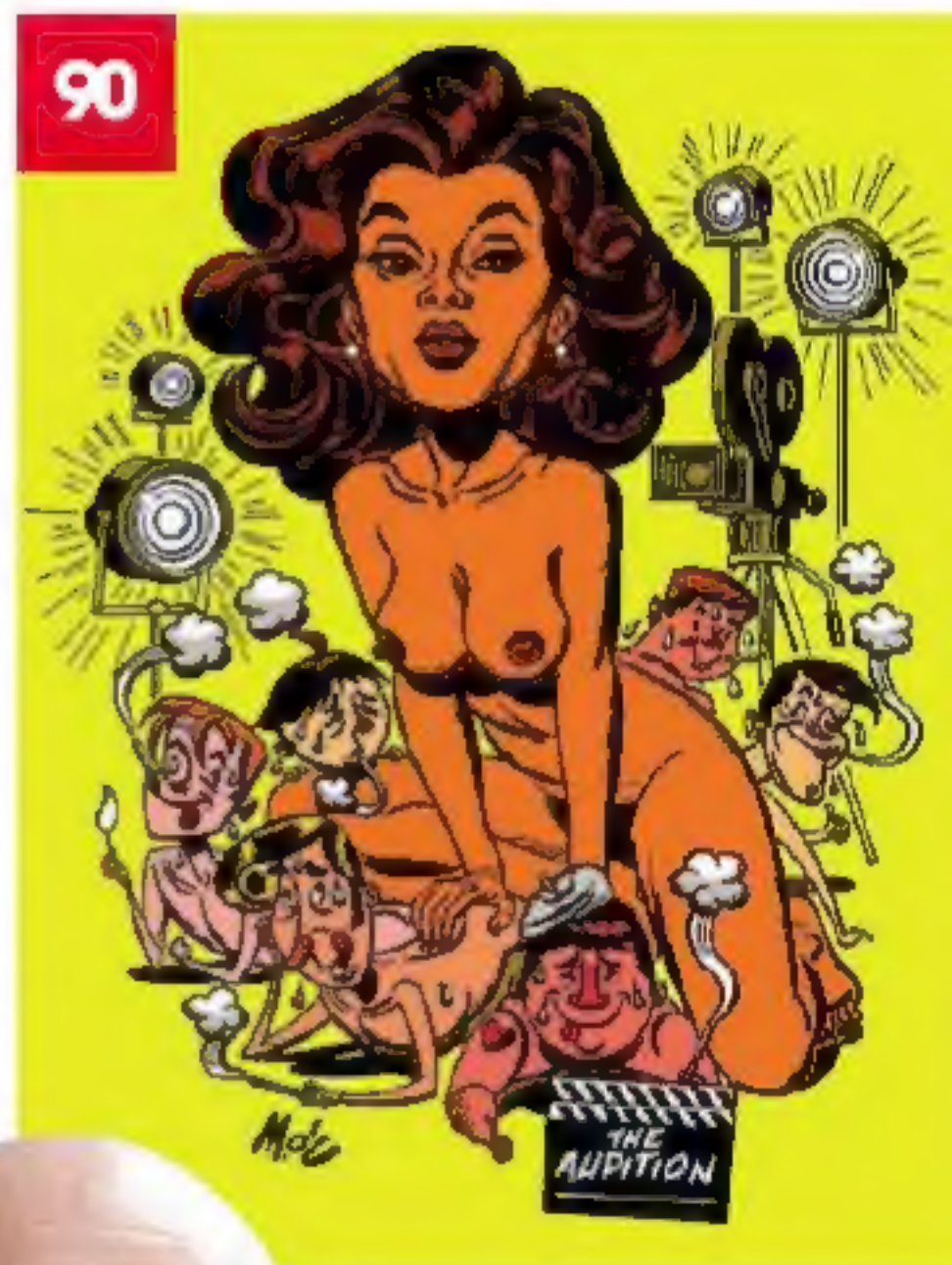
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STICK 'EM UP!

YOUR FOUR PULL-OUT POSTERS BEGIN ON P47, INCLUDING...
MASUMI MAX! LATEX FETISH! BUCK ANGEL! JOHN WATERS!





THE GRINDER

Your monthly mash-up of NEWS, VIEWS, OOZE and OOHs!

ROLL UP! ROLL UP! COME JOIN THE CIRCUS

The circus is in town... and they're hiring! *Bizarre* is invited to watch wannabe performers audition to join the world's wildest freak show folk at London's best kept secret, Cirque Le Soir...

ONCE A MONTH, AS PART OF A SEARCH to discover new acts for its international family of weirdos, cabaret-inspired nightclub Cirque Le Soir opens the doors of its London venue to every sort of freak imaginable.

Last month *Bizarre* visited Cirque Le Soir to see the latest batch of hopefuls in action and check out the decadent venue, where we particularly admired a shrine to medical marvels of the Victorian era; one wall is decorated with faces familiar to *Bizarre* readers such as Chang and Eng Bunker AKA The Siamese Twins, and *Freaks* star Johnny Eck. At Cirque Le Soir, even the loos are a spectacle to behold.

During the casting session, a dazzling mix of performers made their way onto the stage, ranging from cabaret singers to hoop-swingers, from burlesquers to belly dancers, and from contortionists to drag and fire artistes. We even saw a trio of body-popping break dancers who were so good they were hired to perform the same night!

Backstage, *Bizarre* was ready to pounce on the performers for a quick chat once they'd

WORDS
AMANDA COBAN

PICTURES
JOSH FAUX /
CIRQUELESOIR.COM

strutted their stuff. We first spoke with Coco Deville (right), a Brighton-based burlesque performer who enjoys routines that are wild and thought-provoking. "I like to play big characters that make people smile and cheer," says Coco, who performed an act called 'Voodoo Queen' for her audition. "Cabaret has the power to make people experience a roller coaster of emotions, and great performers can engage directly with their audience."

"After realising how few ethnic burlesque performers there are, I decided to create something that promotes empowerment, while focusing on a raw element of my own ethnicity," she continues. "I created a character who's playful, but also powerful and snarly. The Voodoo Queen owns the crowd! As part of the act I gag myself and pour hot wax on my body in a ritualistic, human sacrifice sort of way, ticking the tribal boxes with a nod to fetishism."

As Coco began wiping the wax from her glistening skin we met Julia, whose raunchy 'Devil Strip' performance (see next page) is sure to delight kinksters with its shiny, black-

hoofed boots and the dancer's sinfully bendy body. "I believe the strongest force affecting human beings is sexuality, so all of my routines are related to sex and often include BDSM props such as floggers and nipple clamps," she says. And even though Julia's been performing for over 10 years, she also has an academic understanding of what makes audiences tick: "Last year I completed a Masters Degree in Performance, Practice And Research at the Central School of Speech and Drama. I moved to London from Romania three years ago, so that was a huge life achievement for me."

Next up, a green-haired opera singer from Croydon called Carmen Mon Oxide (see next page) took our breath away with her impressive set of pipes and phenomenal stage presence. Wearing an outfit hand-made by →



Coco Deville oozes confidence as she drips hot wax down her body

THE GRINDER

Wait until you see how Madame Katastroff plays the trumpet.



Julia's 'Devil Strip' routine is hotter than hellfire.



When you have a voice like Carmen's, you have no need for a microphone.



Sparks fly as Miss Rainbow does her fiery thing.



her seamstress mum, Carmen belted out a blinding rendition of a Dead Kennedys number while striking fear into our heart with her fiery attitude. After her performance, Carmen told *Bizarre* that she previously worked in Cirque Le Soir's luxurious Dubai venue, and always got a warm reception. "They loved my act in Dubai!" she says. "It was the most punk thing the crowd had ever seen – it was amazing to see them singing along and cheering!"

MORE THRILLS!

Despite being left breathless by Coco, Carmen and Julia, it wasn't long before *Bizarre* fell under the spell of Rosie Kohl's wiggling hips during her belly dancing routine called 'The Uncanny Elephant Girl'. "I love making an audience laugh, but some people don't enjoy weird cabaret," she says. "I spotted Cirque Le Soir's call-out for performers and knew it was my sort of place. I once worked for a replica 1930s travelling sideshow as a showgirl in a chicken outfit. I had the time of my life!"

As the auditions came to a close, there was one last surprise in the glamorous frame of Madame Katastroff. With a white recorder wedged up her schnoz, and her 'I Love London' knickers dangling around her ankles, she performed a flawless rendition of Louis Armstrong's 'What A Wonderful World'.

"I taught myself to play my brother's recorder while spending a boring Christmas back home in Finland," she says. "A friend said it'd ruin my lipstick if I played it normally during a show, so I used my nostril instead and the crowd went wild. I can also play the piano and trumpet – maybe I'll create a new routine where I play brass with my ass. I've seen the American comedienne Amy Gordon play the kazoo with her pussy! Eventually, I'd like to have my own show in Las Vegas or the West End." And if Madame Katastroff's dreams come true, you can bet *Bizarre* will have front row seats!

Cartwheel over to Cirquelesoir.com for info on the London, Dubai and Shanghai venues. Auditions take place on the last Wednesday of every month. To apply, email Perform@cirquelesoir.com



Siobhan Firefly stubbed out a lit cigarette on her tongue.

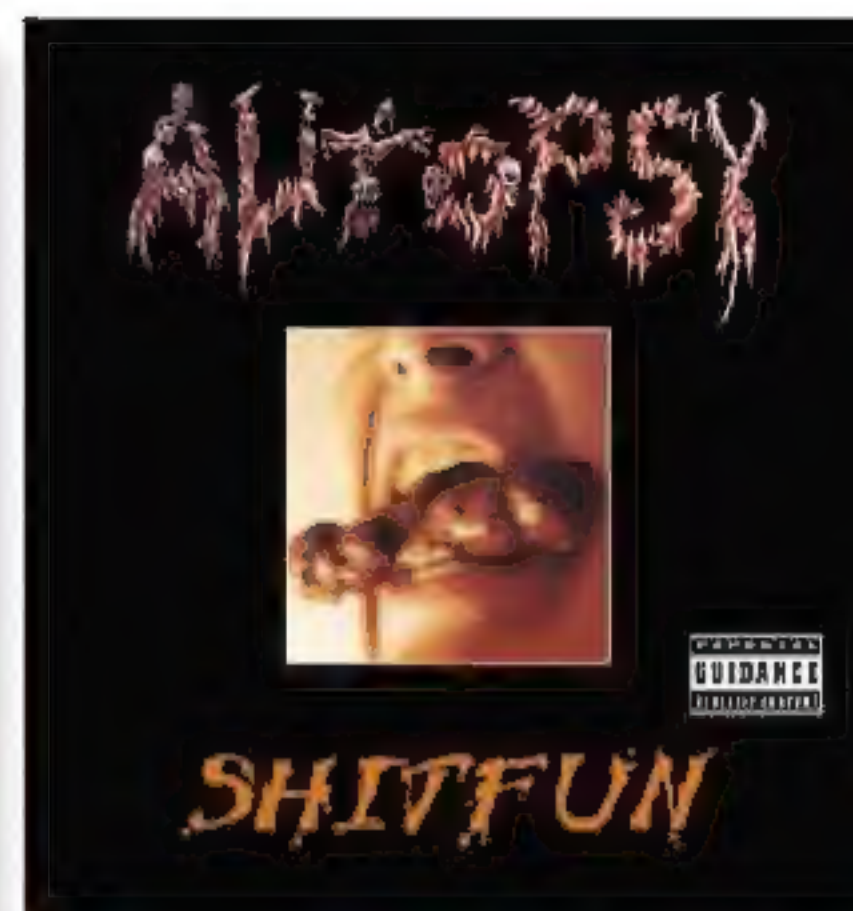


Rosie Kohl performed to 'Pink Elephants On Parade' from the Disney movie *Dumbo*.

Liverpool Tattoo Convention

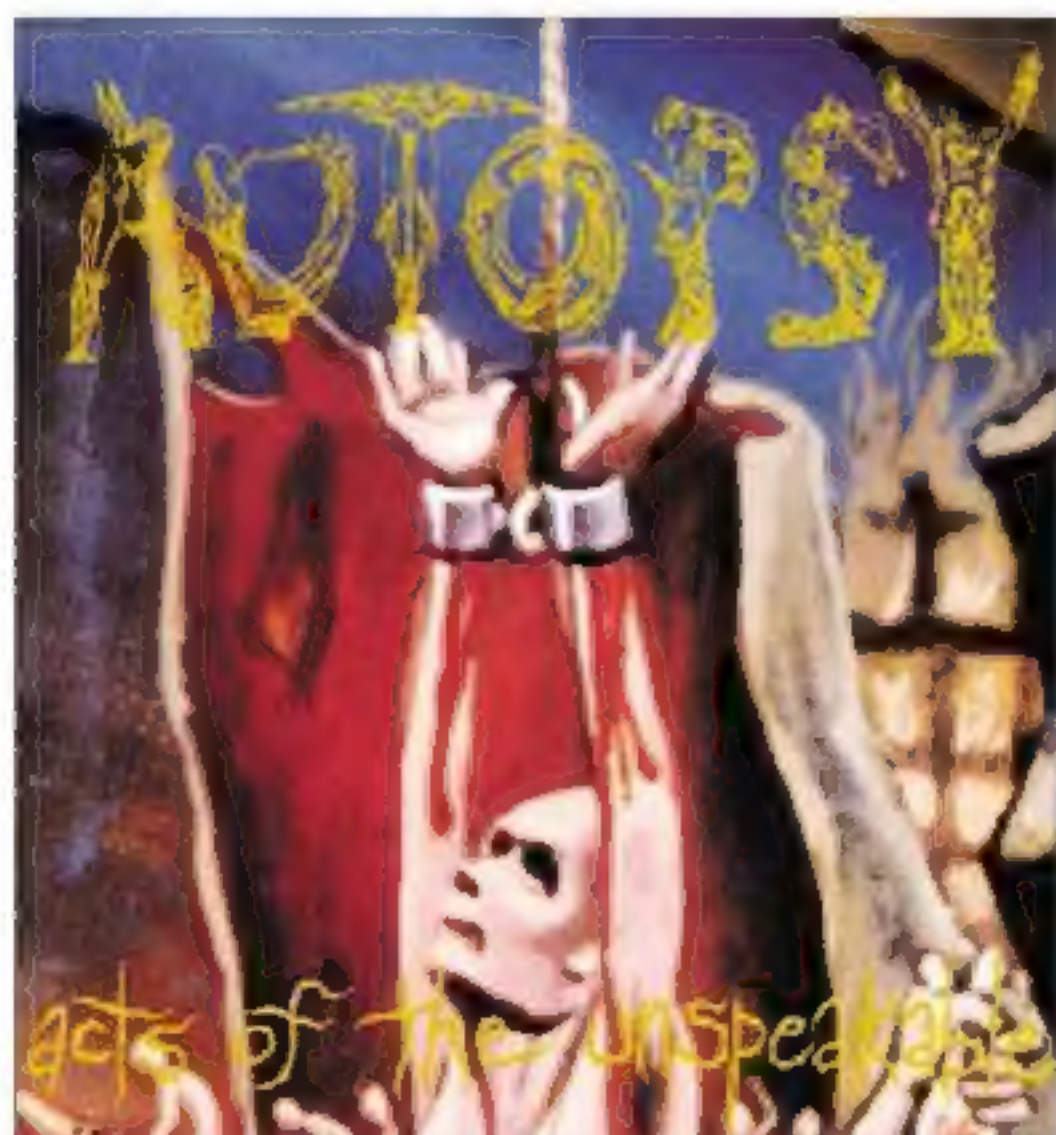


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ART OF THE UNSPEAKABLE!

American death metal legends Autopsy on the (cover) art of shocking people...



PROVIDING INSPIRATION FOR FELLOW gorehounds Cannibal Corpse and Dismember, the mighty Autopsy have made a career out of ruffling feathers with their gruesome songs and abrasive album art. With the band's seventh studio album, *Tourniquets, Hacksaws And Graves*, delivering more cover-based grisliness courtesy of artist Wes Benscoter, singer / drummer Chris Reifert talks to *Bizarre* about the art of sickness...

You've used Wes Benscoter for your new album, who also produced the cover art for 2011's *Macabre Eternal*. What was his brief? I gave him the name of the album and a couple of song titles so he could get a feel of things. The rest just poured out of his twisted imagination. We're totally psyched with what he came up with, and it seems lots of other folks are as well.

What's the most controversy you've ever had with your album covers?

The original *Severed Survival* cover caused a fuss with distributors, so we produced an alternative version to release it on a wider scale. That cover, with the guy being ripped apart by

meat hooks, is tame by today's standards. But this was in 1989, before everyone had seen everything sick that there is to see. At any rate, we ended up with two killer covers. Our third album, *Acts Of The Unspeakable* (1992), got record label Peaceville in trouble, and its offices were raided by the authorities. Nothing came of it, but I believe distributors in Australia refused to take the album on. Some journalists also thought we were pushing things too far in terms of art and lyrical content. I spoke with a few who expected me to be a genuinely bad person, not just someone with a sick sense of humour who doesn't mind ruffling some uptight feathers.

***Shitfun* is your most unusual cover as it shows someone scoffing a bird. What was the story behind that?**

Yeah, I'm still surprised we did that. But we'd just come back from a disastrous US tour, which led to the band splitting. It wasn't fun any longer and so we decided to call it quits (the band reformed in 2010), but only after doing one more album and a farewell show in San Francisco. It was great to go out with our middle fingers held high! When it came to the cover, because of how people had freaked out about *Acts Of The Unspeakable*, we felt it was time to up the ante.

Is the poo on the *Shitfun* cover real?

Eric Cutler (guitar / vocals) actually revealed the full story of that cover in a recent interview. I've always tried to keep it vague, which I will also do here. So it's up to you to decide how sick we are, and if the photo is real or not. Haha!

Tourniquets, Hacksaws And Graves is out on 21 April through Peaceville

MADE FROM THE DEAD

Bizarre writer Emma Mendes da Costa tells us about her grisly taxidermy workshop with Tonja Grüng

THE SMELL WAS HALFWAY between a pet shop and an unwashed flesh tunnel, and the tiny task laid before me seemed insurmountable.

"It's always harder when you're hungover," said Tonja Grüng, a professional taxidermy teacher who'd offered to teach me the ancient art. "Your hands shake more."

I nodded mutely, convinced that I'd puke if I tried to speak. Hungover, yes, but I've also been a vegetarian for 21 years... and I was about to skin my very first mouse.

I shouldn't have worried: Grüng guided me through the process expertly, from the first hesitant scalpel slice to the last shonky stitch. By the end of the workshop I was the proud creator of a mounted mouse, accessorised with glasses, a top hat and a typewriter. I named him Baron Stilton, and it felt stuffing brilliant.

"I started running the courses last year," Grüng says. "I hold the mouse workshop twice

a month in London with 10-15 people each time. It mostly attracts rock'n'roll girls, but there are a few lucky men too."

I attended Grüng's workshop at the Brighton Tattoo Convention, but her business - Made From The Dead - is branching out, and now she wants to offer more ambitious classes. And while mice are suitable for beginners, stuffers will soon be able to tackle birds and 'Black Death' rats under her tutelage.

Grüng herself is self-taught, and enjoys putting a dark twist on traditional taxidermy, crafting one-off art pieces as well as preparing skulls and wet specimens.

"I love combining all the things I love in my art," she says. "I make every piece as if it was for me, to my own taste."

Check out MadeFromTheDead.com for more information on courses, or peruse Grüng's creations at AsylumOddities.com, the new online antiques and curiosities shop she runs with her brother, Kurt.

Left: Tonja Grüng, snapped at the Made From The Dead booth at the Brighton Tattoo Convention



Baron Stilton on a temporary mount with glasses, top hat and a typewriter. Grüng gets most of her props from doll's house specialists.

PICTURES: GEORGE GRIGG



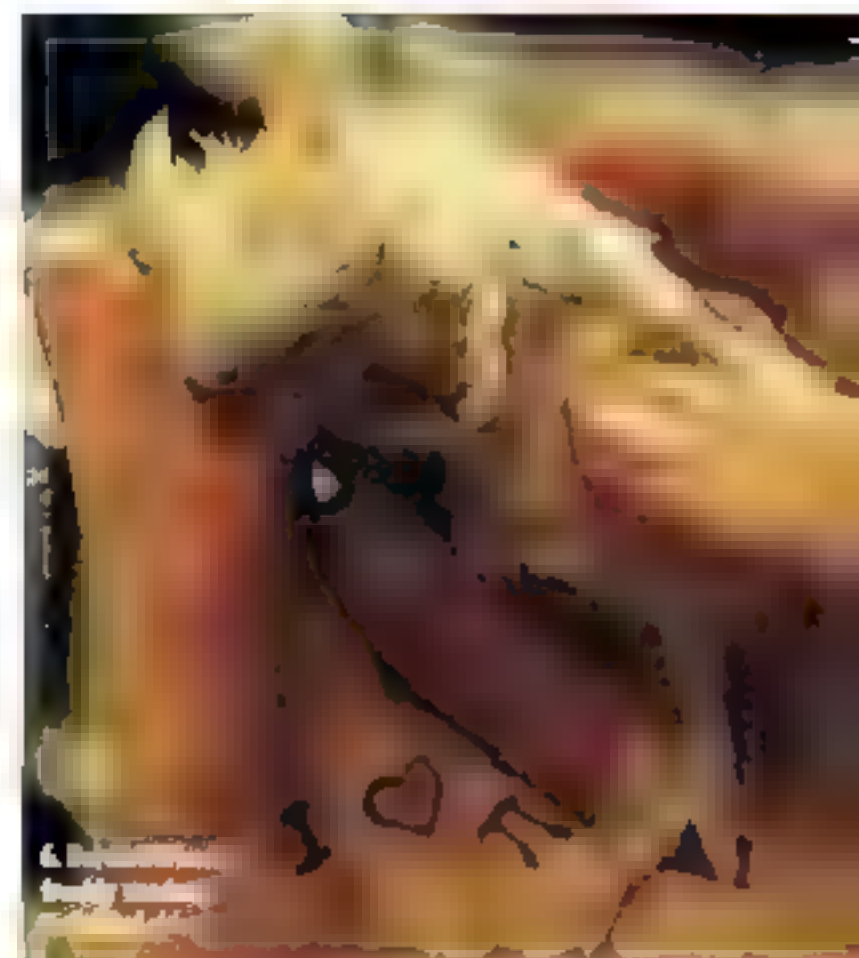
Stilton's cousin, Baron Stilton, sits open with his back legs propped out.



Baron Stilton, mounted with the taxidermied tail removed.



Stilton's cousin, Baron Stilton, sits open with his back legs propped out.



Stilton's cousin, Baron Stilton, sits open with his back legs propped out.



Take a trip to hell and back as *Bizarre* Ultra Vixen, **Missy Poison**, pays tribute to Rob Zombie's award-winning horror flick, *The Devil's Rejects*

Staged in an abandoned barn at a secret location, make-up artist Suzanna Fornister-Beer was on hand to help with the transformation. Both models took their turn in front of the camera, with Missy portraying Vera-Ellen 'Baby' Firefly and Addison Duggan starring as Captain JT Spaulding.

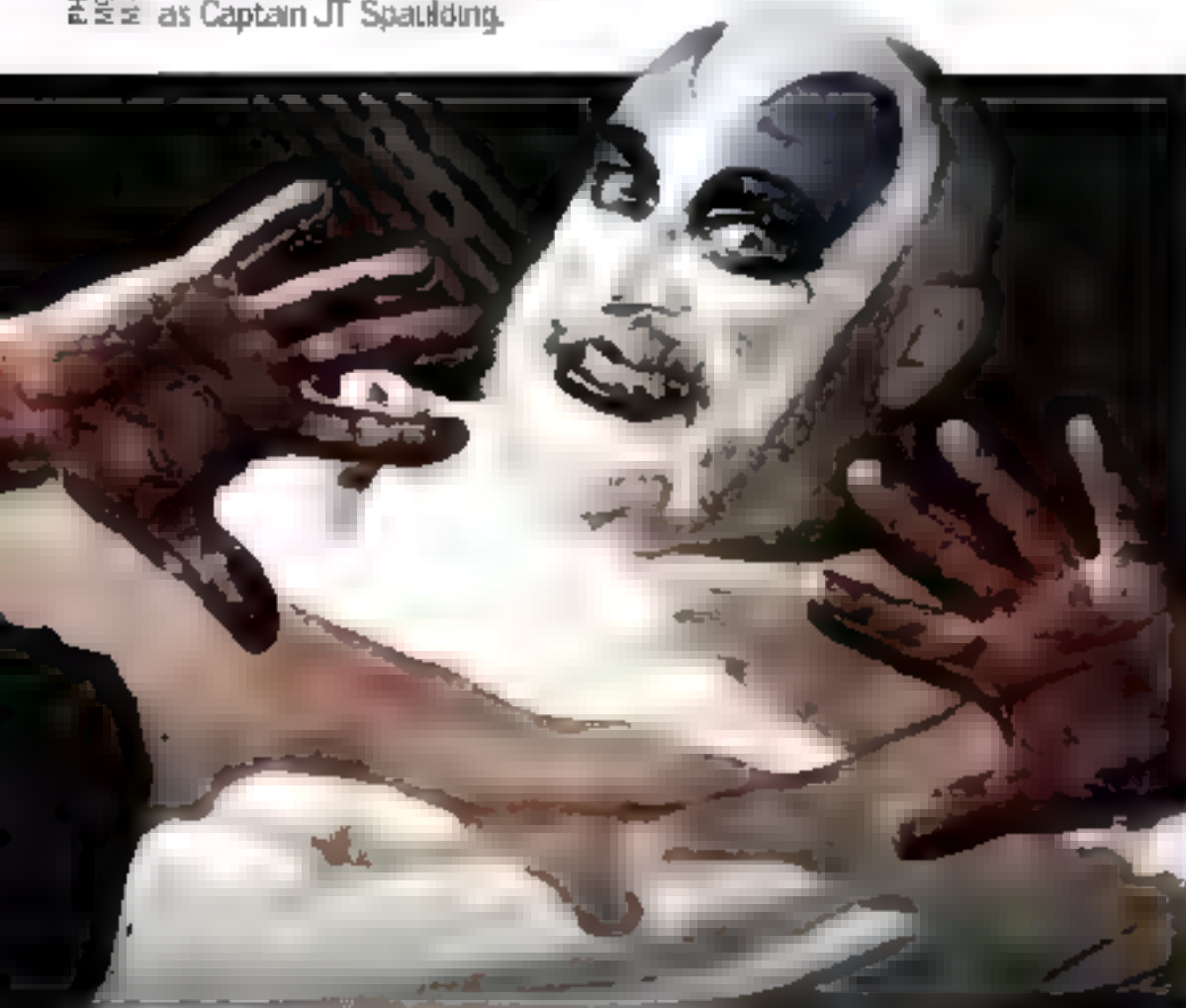


Keep an eye out for updates on Zombie's upcoming works at Robzombie.com, and check out Missy's gallery of pictures at Ultraviolents.net/missy_poison

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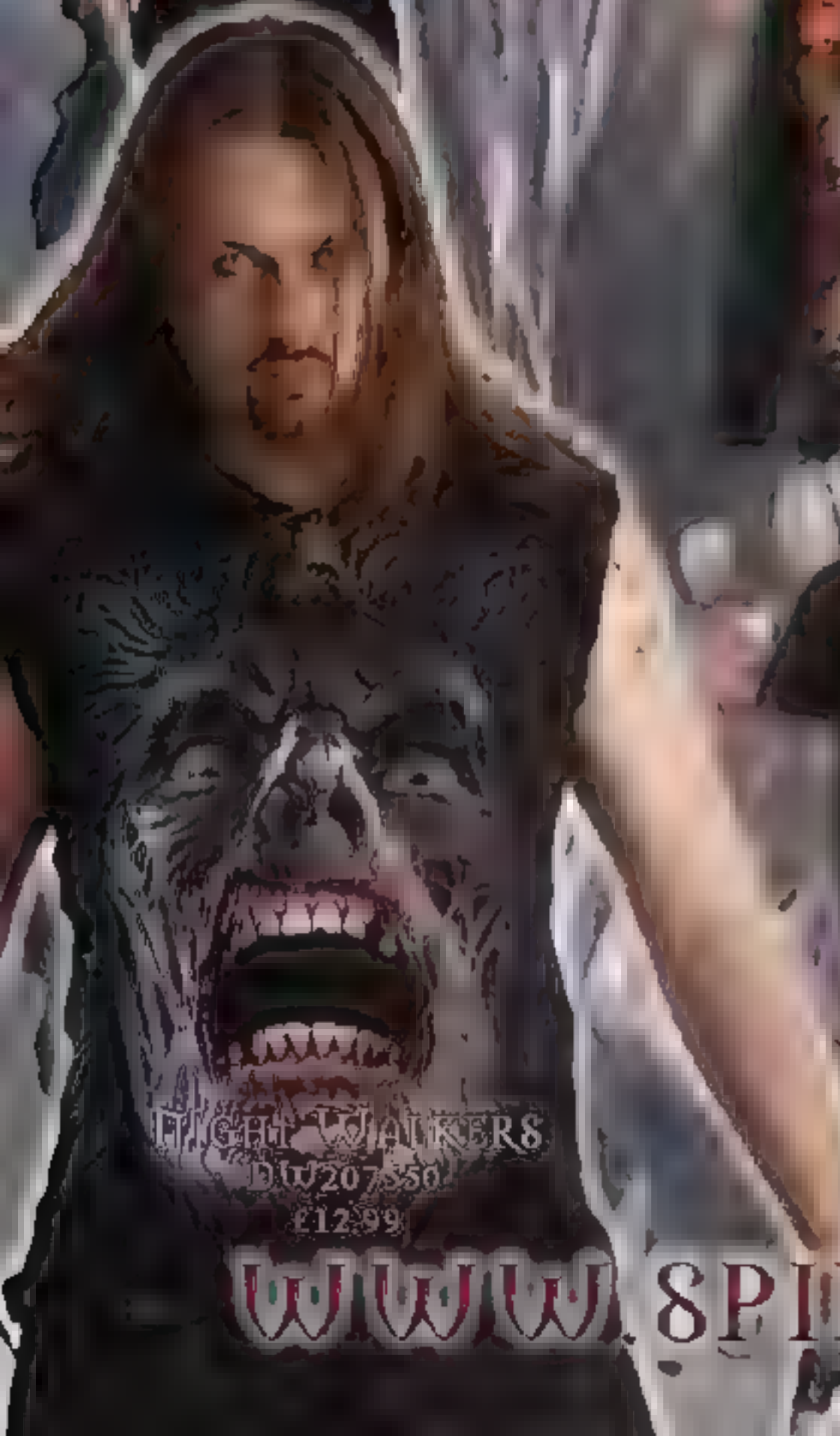
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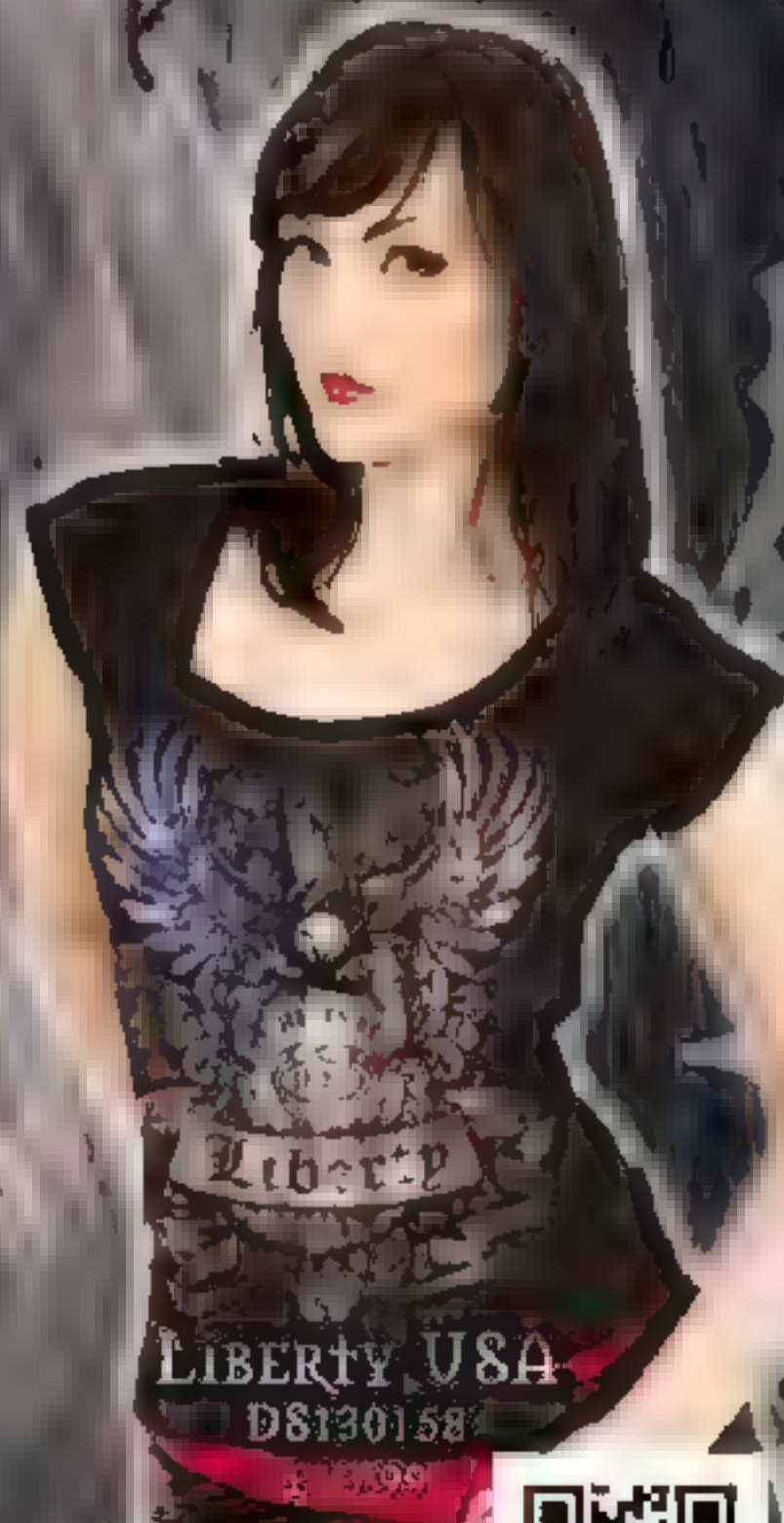
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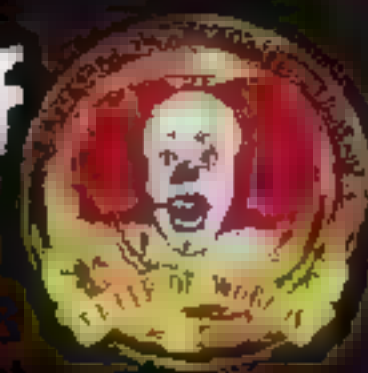
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MANDATRON@BLACKTHORNCOMMUNICATIONS.COM

SEND US YOUR STUFF!



SCHEISS!

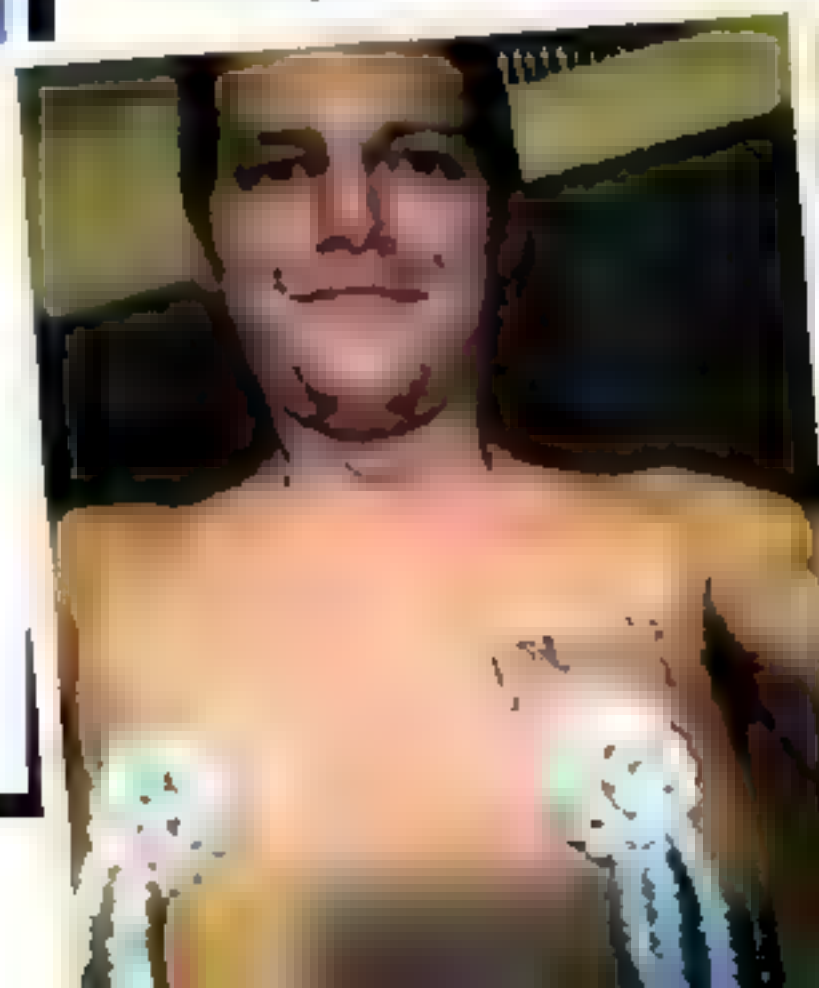
My name's David and I live in Germany. Today, your February 2014 issue of the magazine arrived and I couldn't believe my eyes. Instead of the usual paper quality, I received a thin, cheaply-printed magazine. I do understand that costs are rising and it may be hard to find fresh content, but it's not OK to make the magazine thinner every year. The quality of the articles gets lower from issue to issue, the pictures get less creative, and even the paper the magazine is printed on is crap. It would be great if you could raise the quality of the magazine, otherwise I'm not sure if I will continue to purchase *Bizarre*. Please understand this criticism is friendly, as I would like to read your magazine in the future.

David, via email

Bizarre says: We're sorry to hear you were disappointed with *Bizarre* 210 – but please rest assured that we're doing our best to produce a magazine our readers want in these tough economic times, and with limited resources. What articles and topics would you like to read about? Get in touch and share your suggestions.

S-PUNK

A chap called Lee Bostick posted this titillating photo (below) on *Bizarre*'s Facebook page, with the caption "Bizarre...". We asked Lee if he had any ideas for a burlesque stage name, and he replied: "Ya. Richard Fitzwell. LOL." We still don't get it.



Dumpstar!

DEDICATED TO DAD

I'd like to share with you my mum's new portrait tattoo, which was inked by Darren Stares at Unique Tattoo in Portsmouth last December. It's a picture of my dad, who was taken from us suddenly on Christmas Eve four years ago. Sadly, however, this photo doesn't capture the beauty of the tattoo

or brilliance of my dad. He encouraged me to follow my dreams, he introduced me to burlesque, *Bizarre* magazine and the weird and wonderful world of alternative culture. I owe him a lot. What I do. I do for him. I also want to add that this tattoo represents the strength and the bravery of my mum during such a terrible ordeal.

WELL DONE!
YOU WIN
NOTHING!

If I could be half the woman she is, I'd be happy. My dad would be delighted to hear that I'm a published *Bizarre* Ultra Vixen and burlesque dancer.

If you could print this photo and my story in *Bizarre*, I'd be very grateful and so would my dad – it would be like a dedication to one of your biggest fans. I've also included a picture from my parents' wedding day – it was pretty Gothic and weird!

Nina LaBelle, via Facebook



as *The Devil Rides Out* and *Blood On Satan's Claw*

I wanted to get the right props for the shoot and, luckily our make-up artist Strega and Ultra Vixen Dark Morte had an abundance of satanic artefacts including skulls, daggers, a stuffed crow, old books, potion bottles and more. The Gothic Shop kindly lent us outfits for the two witches, Dark Morte and Miss Belts. Strega also took part as the sacrificial victim and made her own white diaphanous gown.

I wanted the shoot to be a mixture of 1960s / 70s style witchy horror but with a modern twist. The victim has quite a prominent chest tattoo, so it mixes the old with the new. We staged the shoot around Halloween, and we may have invoked a few spirits while dabbling with dark forces. I think that probably added to the final images which you can see at OranTaran.com

Oran Taran, via email

ROCK ON!

My name is Maryan MG and I'm an independent singer from Mexico (below). I fight hard to spread the word about 'lofi rock' music, which is inspired by Japanese culture and the Gothic / alternative scene. I've been making records and music videos for six years now - I love it! If Bizarre readers are interested in hearing more, they can read about my projects at Maryanmg.bandcamp.com

Maryan MG, via Facebook →

WITCHCULT

I recently completed a body of work called *Witchcult* which I'd like to share with you (example above). The idea came from my interest in witchcraft and the occult, which stems from my love of classic horror films such



VIPER AND VIXEN

I'm an aspiring alt.model who goes by the name Pure Hatred, and I was featured in the return of the 'Vipers' Nest' in *Bizarre 205*. A while ago I ventured into the world of music videos for the first time, and starred alongside Ultra Vixen Juliette October in a promotional film for Essex band Minerva Falls. In the video for 'CLM' you can see me getting my own way with the latex clad beauty with a whip, some jump leads and a scythe until things don't go my way. Here's a picture from the day, when we indulged in some party sausages on set. Find the video by searching for Minerva Falls on YouTube. Enjoy... I know I did!

Pure Hatred, via email



PICTURE COURTESY OF VICTORIA PLUM



OOPS!

Bizarre would like to apologise to our reader, Clearhearts, for printing a picture without confirming she was happy for us to publish the image. We're changing the way we do things at Bizarre to make sure it doesn't happen again. Sorry again, Clearhearts.

SAY NO TO EGOS

I rarely feel the need to write to magazines, but I felt I had to express my thoughts on the letter 'Jack Hits Back' printed in Bizarre 210. The letter was about a tattoo studio that your reader Victoria Plum visited in Kingston, where staff laughed at her idea to get a tattoo of the sketch that her hero, Tim Burton, drew for her (left).

This sneering attitude is one that I've also encountered in several tattoo studios, most notably in Dundee. I don't think it's acceptable for any tattoo artist to say that a customer's ideas or wishes are stupid. After all, surely the beauty of body art is that it's personal and has meaning to the individual?

Can tattoo artists please take note that you are not the arbiters of

WHERE DO YOU READ YOURS?

Most of you enjoy perusing Bizarre on the crapper, just like King Kamek Jambou (right), but we want to see you reading the world's greatest rag on the highest peaks, in the lowest valleys and in the weirdest places!



"THAT ONE GETTER'S GOT SOME DODGY-LOOKIN' STINGS ON THEM TROUSERS..."



cool, and you don't operate on a higher level of taste than your customers just because you wield a tattoo machine. Your customers are the ones best placed to know what they want, and what will look good on their bodies. You are not there to judge what is worthy of your time and expertise, we come to you to help make our ideas come to life, not to be left disheartened by your personal opinions and snobbery.

Tattoo artists – please remember that customers pay your wages. You are not doing your customers a favour. You are supplying a service. In short, you're not better / cooler / more educated than those who walk through your studio door – start treating your customers with respect.

John Kennedy

CUSTOM-MADE EYE CANDY

I'm a mixed-media artist, and I've been creating bespoke alt jewellery under the name JewelVenom since November 2012. I'd love to see my creations in your pages – Bizarre is my favourite monthly read! Each piece of jewellery is handmade with love and a dash of venom, and guaranteed to catch your eye. My inspirations include zombies (right), nature and space, to name just a few. You can find my e-shop on Etsy or head to [Facebook.com/jewelvenom](https://www.facebook.com/jewelvenom). Stacey Legge, South Wales.

BARTON'S BODY ART

I thought your readers might be interested in my ink adventure. My tattoo artist is Mr A from Pattaya in Thailand. I've had work done from my neck down to just





COMPETITION WINNERS!

...the most tattooed man in Pattaya, so he feels like the cat that got the cream! I go to his shop three or four times a week for four hours at a time. This is probably the fourth time I've had my bodysuit redone. A lot of time and pain has gone into this! It's like an addiction. I don't drink, smoke or take drugs - my high is getting tattooed!



above my knob on all sides and on my front (above) Mr A can't speak English and I can't speak Thai - I normally walk in with a drawing then leave it up to him. A lot of my tattoos were drawn by me in the early hours of the morning, because I dream about new designs. You need to trust your artist 100 per cent, otherwise forget it.

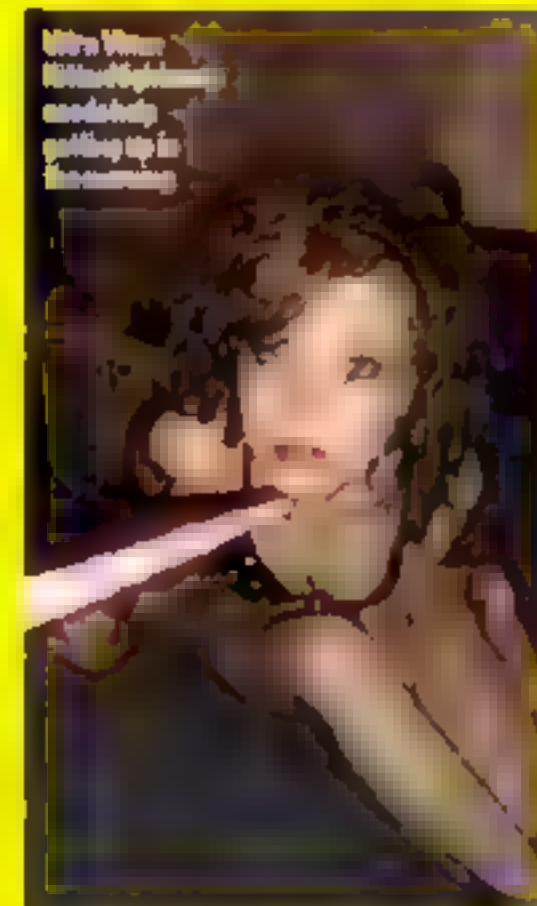
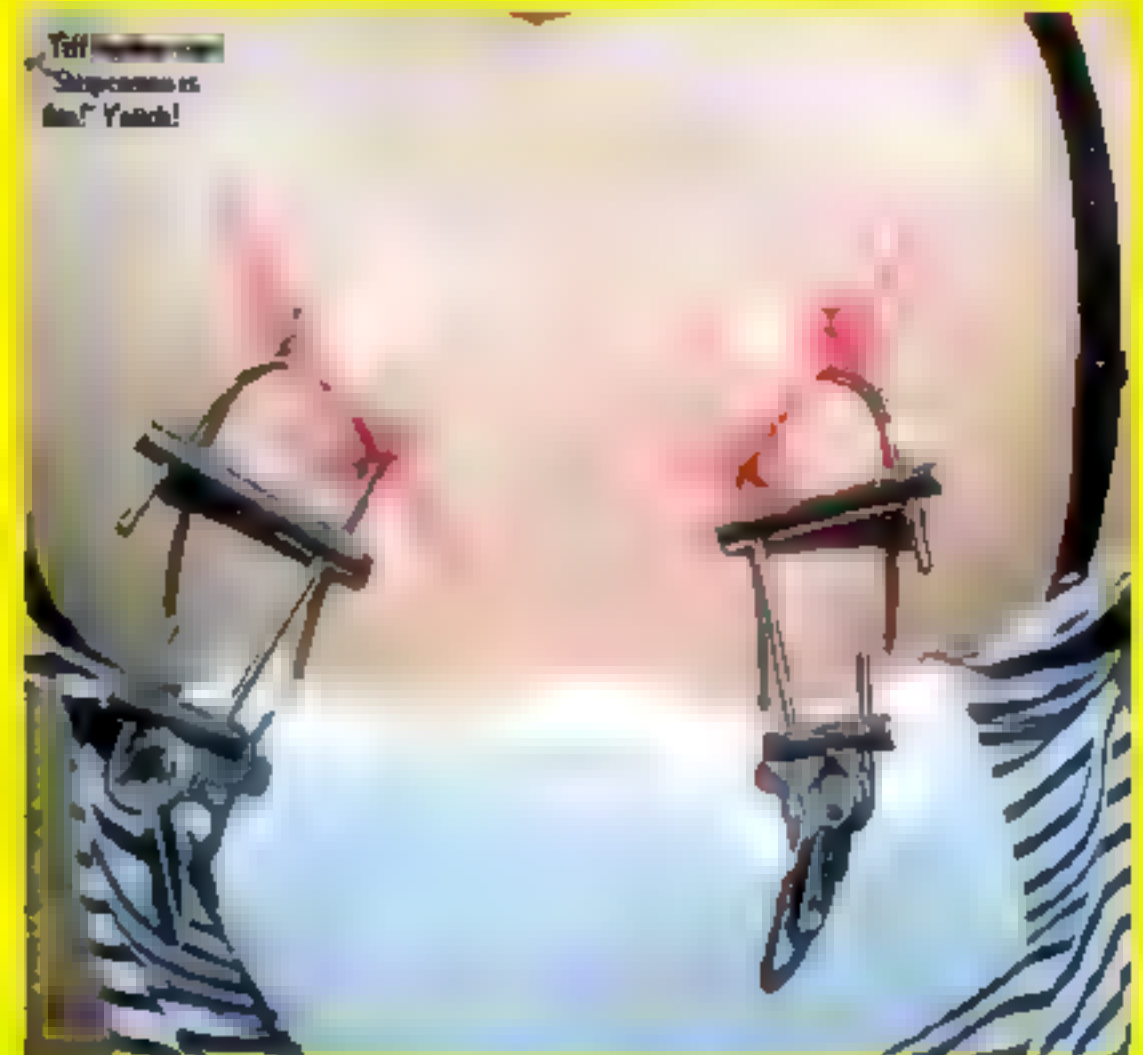
Mr A does a lot of freehand work without any stencils or drawing with a pen; he goes in straight away with the tattoo gun. He's an excellent artist, and I'm good for him because I'm the

most tattooed man in Pattaya, so he feels like the cat that got the cream! I go to his shop three or four times a week for four hours at a time. This is probably the fourth time I've had my bodysuit redone. A lot of time and pain has gone into this! It's like an addiction. I don't drink, smoke or take drugs - my high is getting tattooed!

Tony Barton, via Facebook

PHOTO ASSAULT

You lot showing off on our community page... Visit us at Your-bizarre.tumblr.com



Dead on Delivery

By Miss Britain Kitten



YOUR Body Art

READER TATTS AND BODY MODS

THE 7TH ANNUAL BRIGHTON TATTOO CONVENTION 2014

WORDS EMMA MENDES DA COSTA
PHOTOS GEORGE GREEN, MIKE BURNELL

DETAILS

VENUE Hilton Brighton Metropole hotel

DATE 15-16 February 2014

WEBSITE BrightonTattoo.com

WHILE THE REST OF THE UK was lashed by severe storms, *Bizarre* bravely battened down the hatches and set sail for the lucky seventh Brighton Tattoo Convention. As the city celebrated Valentine's weekend, it saw a dramatic influx of international ink overs, and the astounding body art on show was enough to soften even our gritty, coal-black hearts.

Local heroes Magnum Opus Tattoo kicked the convention into gear with a rollicking rockabilly pre-party, and by Saturday morning our hangovers throbbed as the Hilton buzzed with the familiar locust-drone of tattoo machines. Still, if you're going to have a ball you need to grow a pair, so we caffeinated up and settled in, starting with the Valentine Art Show – organised in aid of Cancer Research UK – before heading out into the maze of artists and traders.

We spied French artist Bugs working his Cubist magic on an abstract sleeve, and a particularly striking demon by Dan Sinnes of Luxembourg Electric Ave. The proud recipient of the demon, Vlatton, told us that it was a kasa-obake, formed from a neglected, vengeful umbrella.

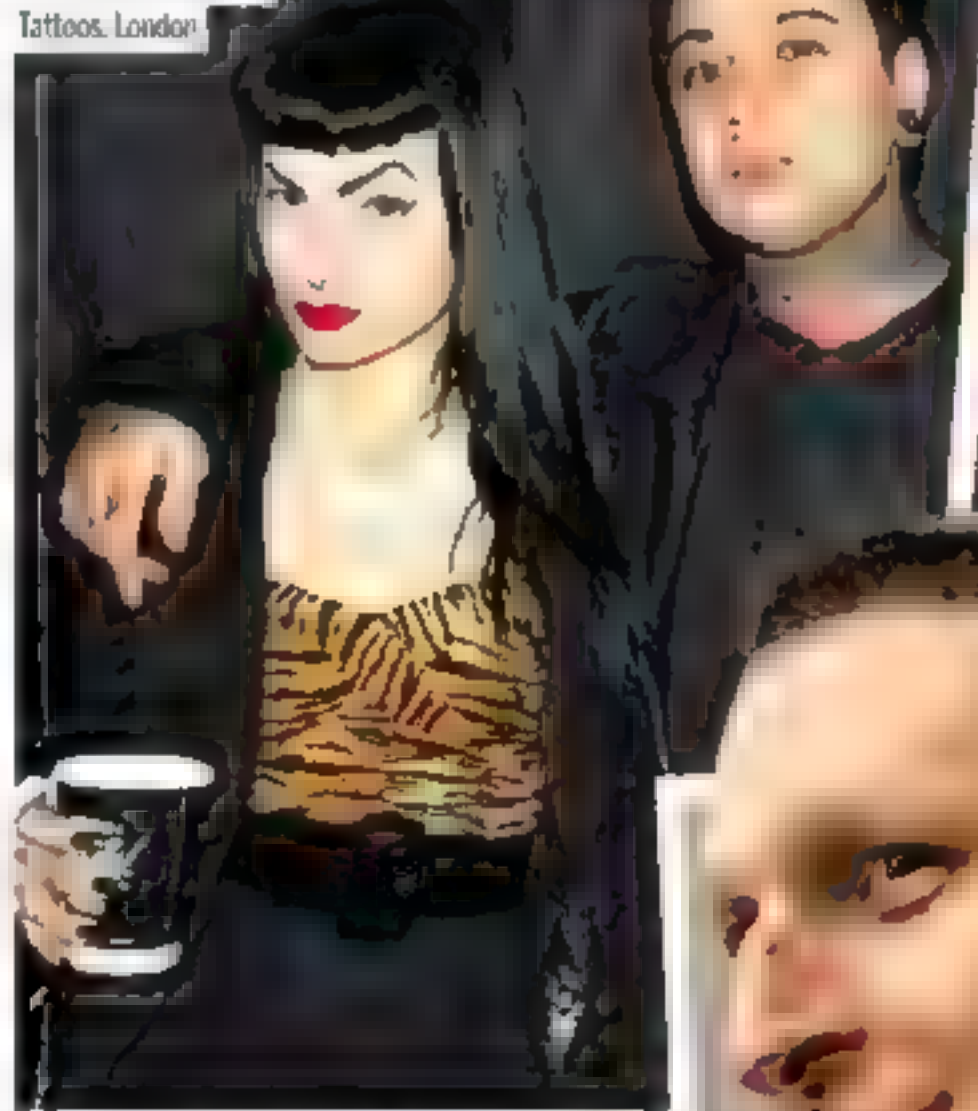
By Sunday the weather finally began to reflect everyone's mood, and sunshine glittered off fresh dingfilm as tattooed reprobates smoked outside the seafront venue. The crowd were hyped up on post-ink adrenaline and the convention's signature cocktails, and we could barely move for colourful characters. Jez Atkinson's rainbow half sleeve was our favourite of the afternoon, it had only just been completed by Leah Moule from Karma Collective in Birmingham when we hijacked her for a chat.

Later we finished up exactly where we started 48 hours earlier at the Sailor Jerry bar, drinking Hei fires. To borrow from Norman Collins' famous flash, if you don't leave the Brighton Tattoo Convention 'stewed, screwed and tattooed' you're doing it wrong.

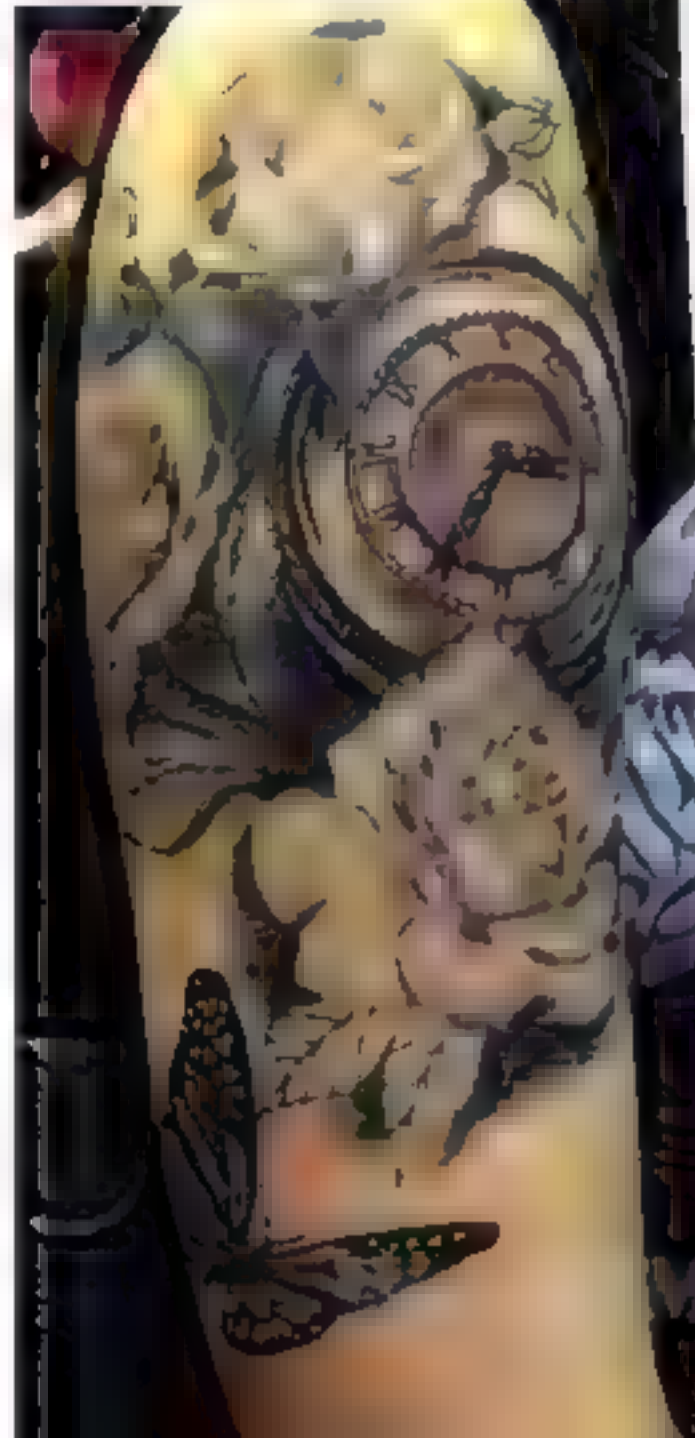
Mariana Apostolakis

Maria Apostolakis

London, Tattoos, London



Lara from Milford, tattooed by Ben Quinn from Tattooland UK, Woking. "The clock shows the time my daughter was born."



The graffiti wall beside the Cannon Place entrance of the Hilton Brighton Metropole



Emilie from London's geometric work by Nigel Palmer from Nine Tattoo Studio, Brighton. "I like art in skin rather than pictures of shit!"

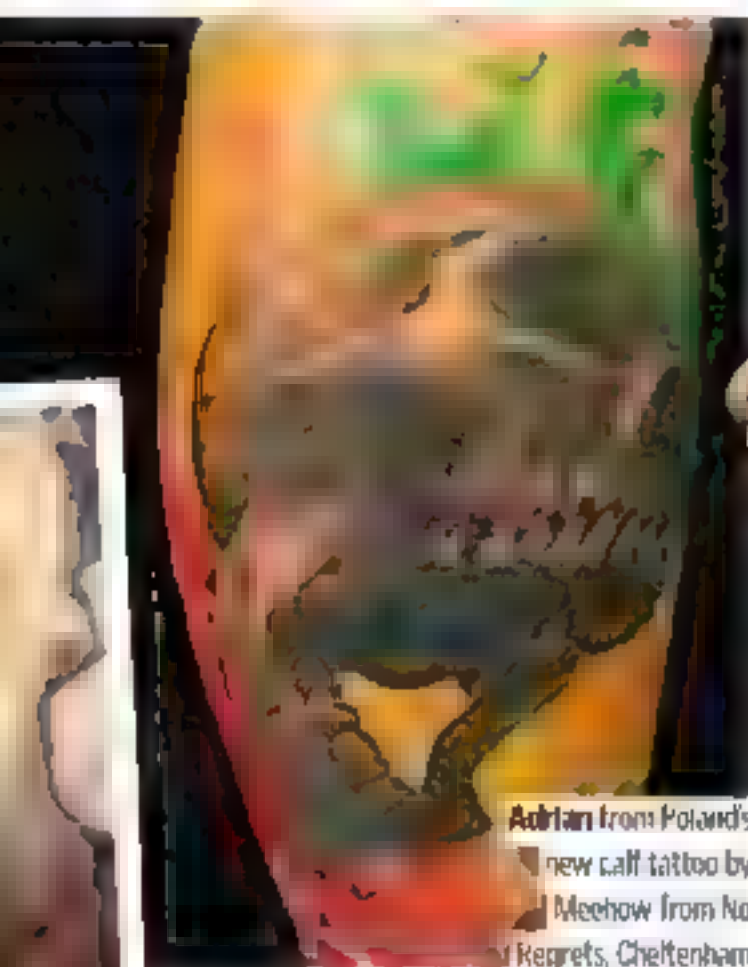
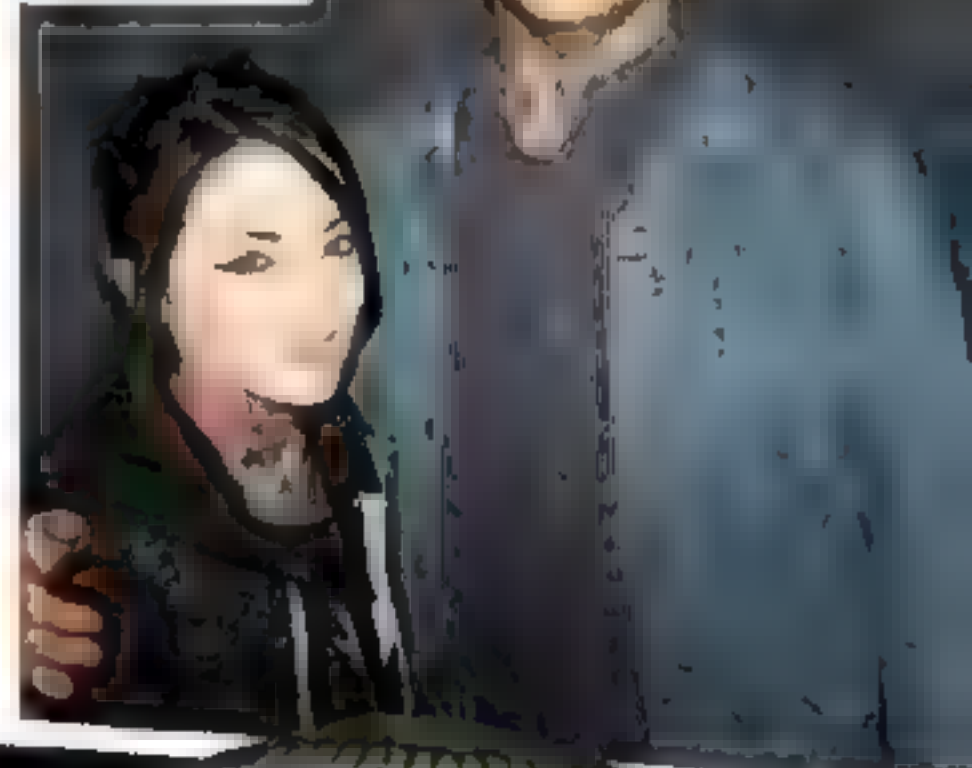


Another brave soul goes under the needle as flocks of visitors file past

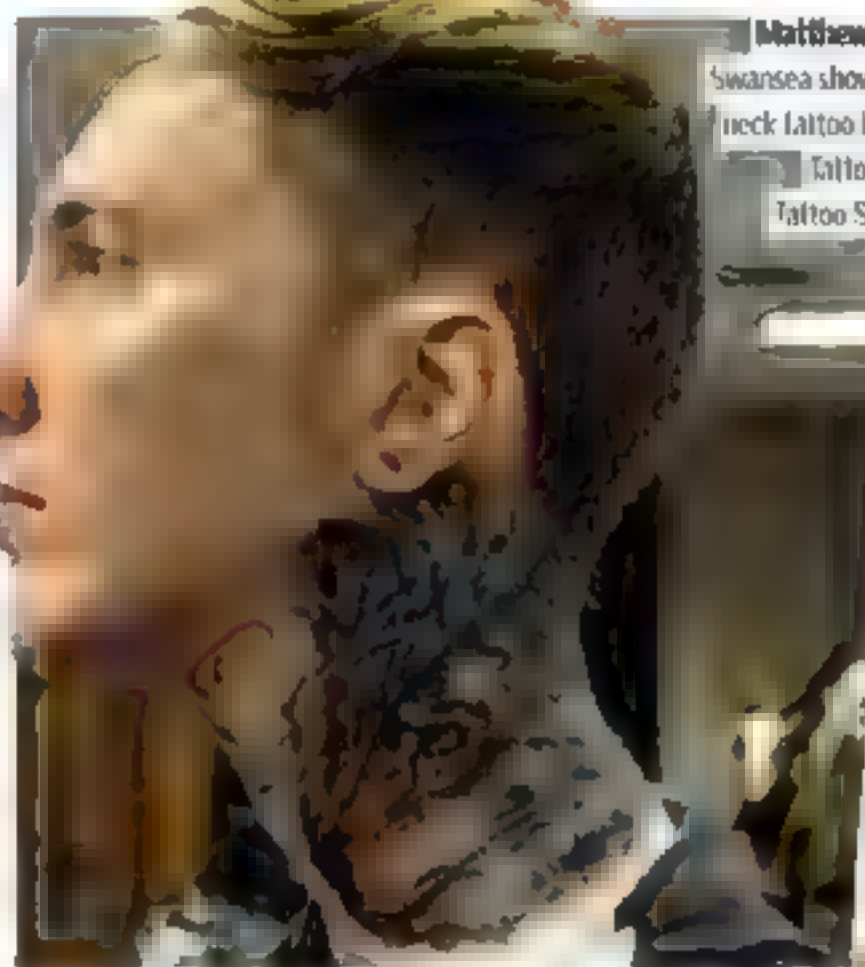


Julia Seizure backpiece by Jay Parker at Sian Illustrations Maidstone

Belle Jordan with **Antony Flemming** from World Of Tattoos, Ruship



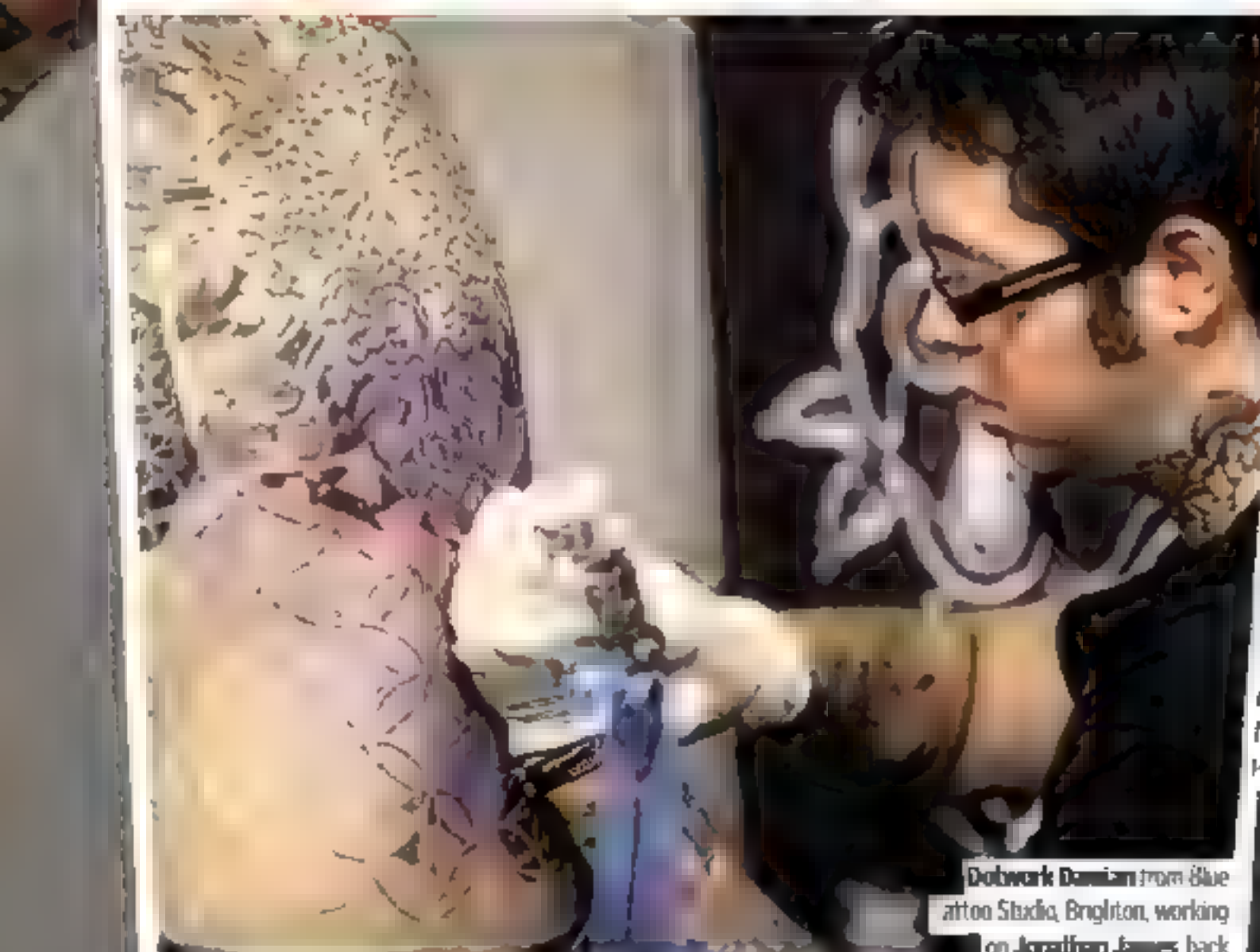
Adrian from Poland's new calf tattoo by Meehow from No Regrets, Cheltenham



Matthew Turner from Swansea shows off his new neck tattoo by Endre from Tattoosend Art And Tattoo Studio, London



Stanley Storm from Vagabond Kings Tattoo, Sweden, shows off his Jesus ink by Hakan Havermark from Crooked Moon Tattoo, Helsingborg, Sweden



Dobwork Damian from Blue Tattoo Studio, Brighton, working on Jonathan James' back



Jez Atkinson from Colchester debuts her new half-sleeve by Leah Moule from Karma Collective Birmingham

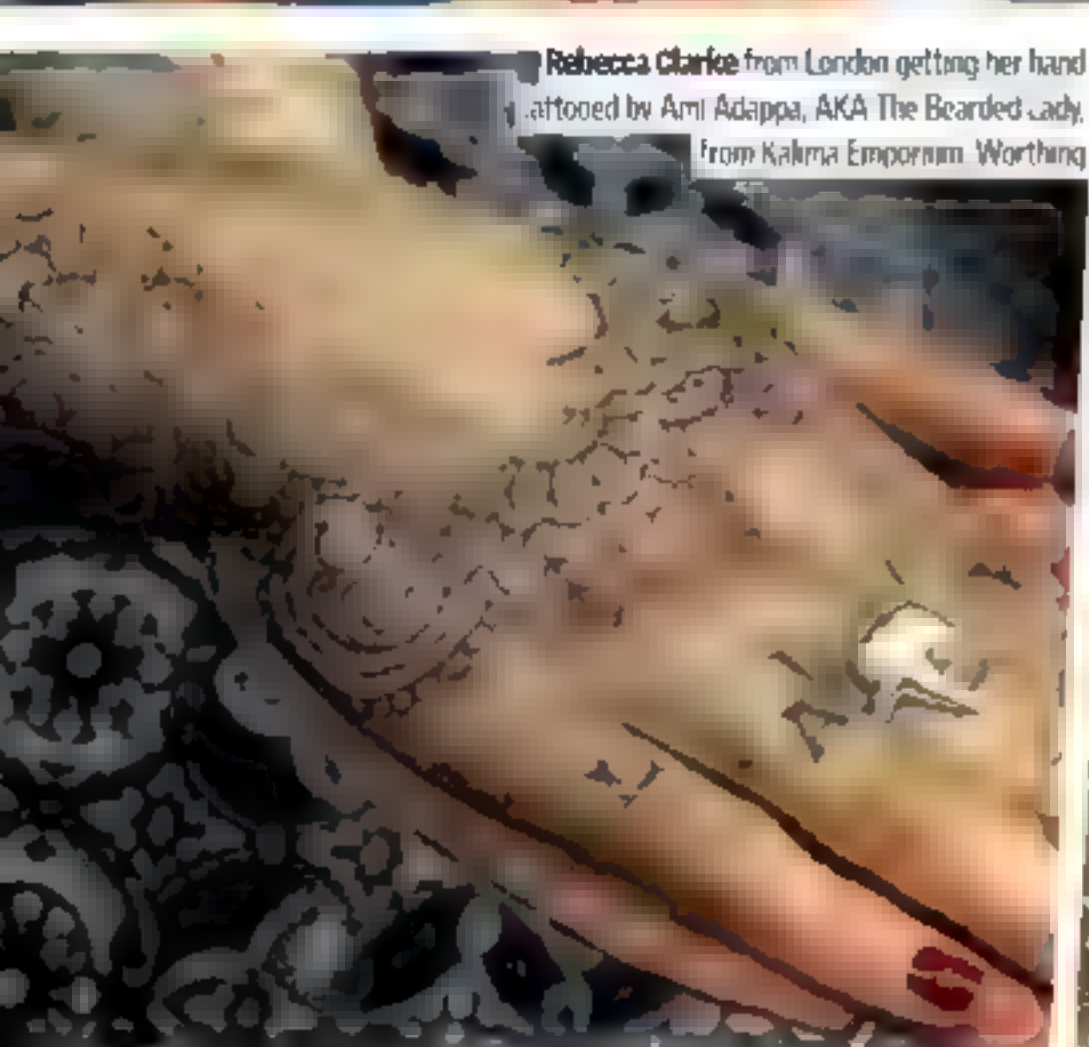


There was plenty of goddamn rock n'roll to keep visitors bootin'

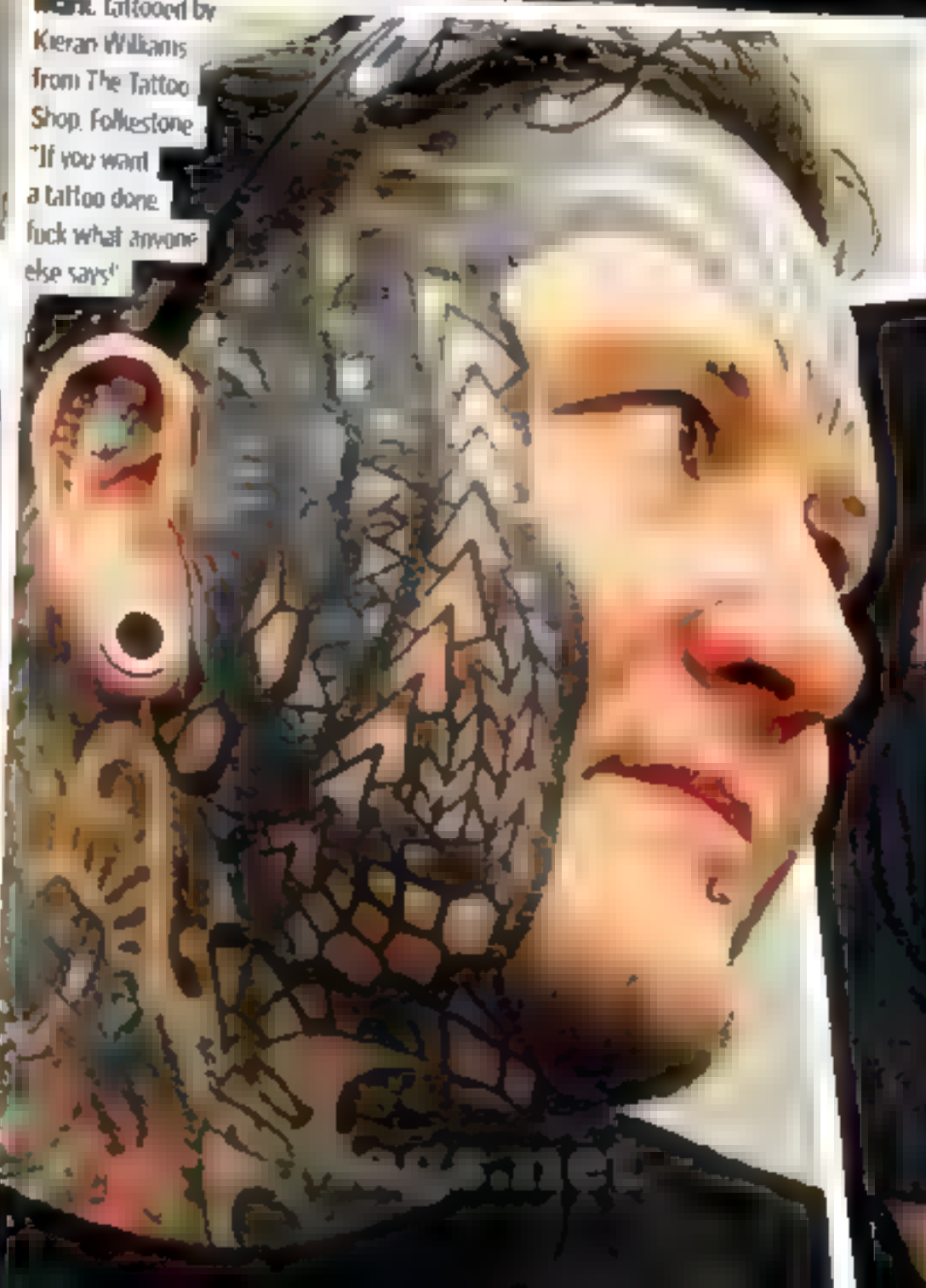


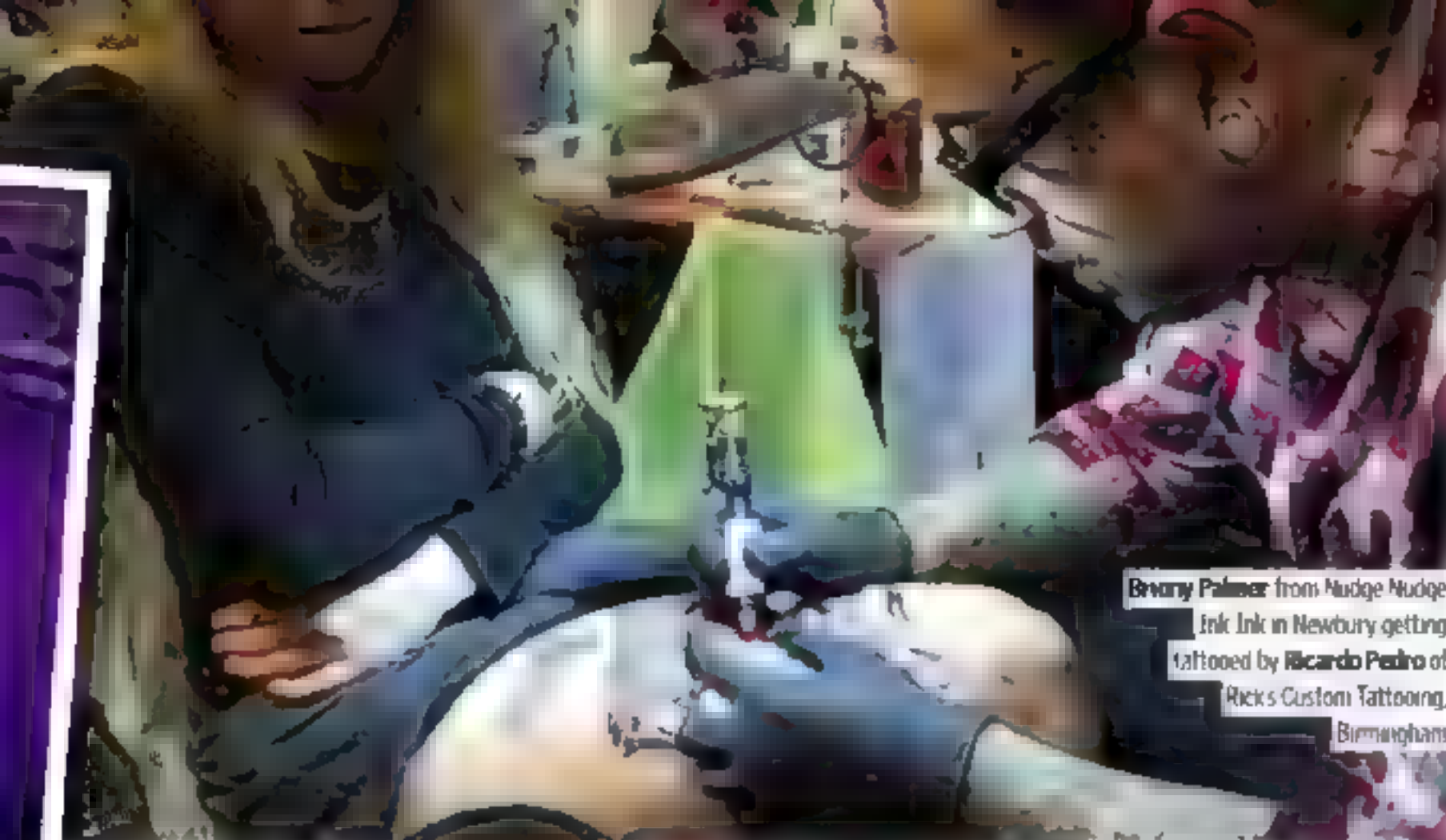
The pop-up barbershop was run by Always Outnumbered Never Outgunned

Mark, tattooed by Kieran Williams from The Tattoo Shop, Folkestone "If you want a tattoo done, fuck what anyone else says!"



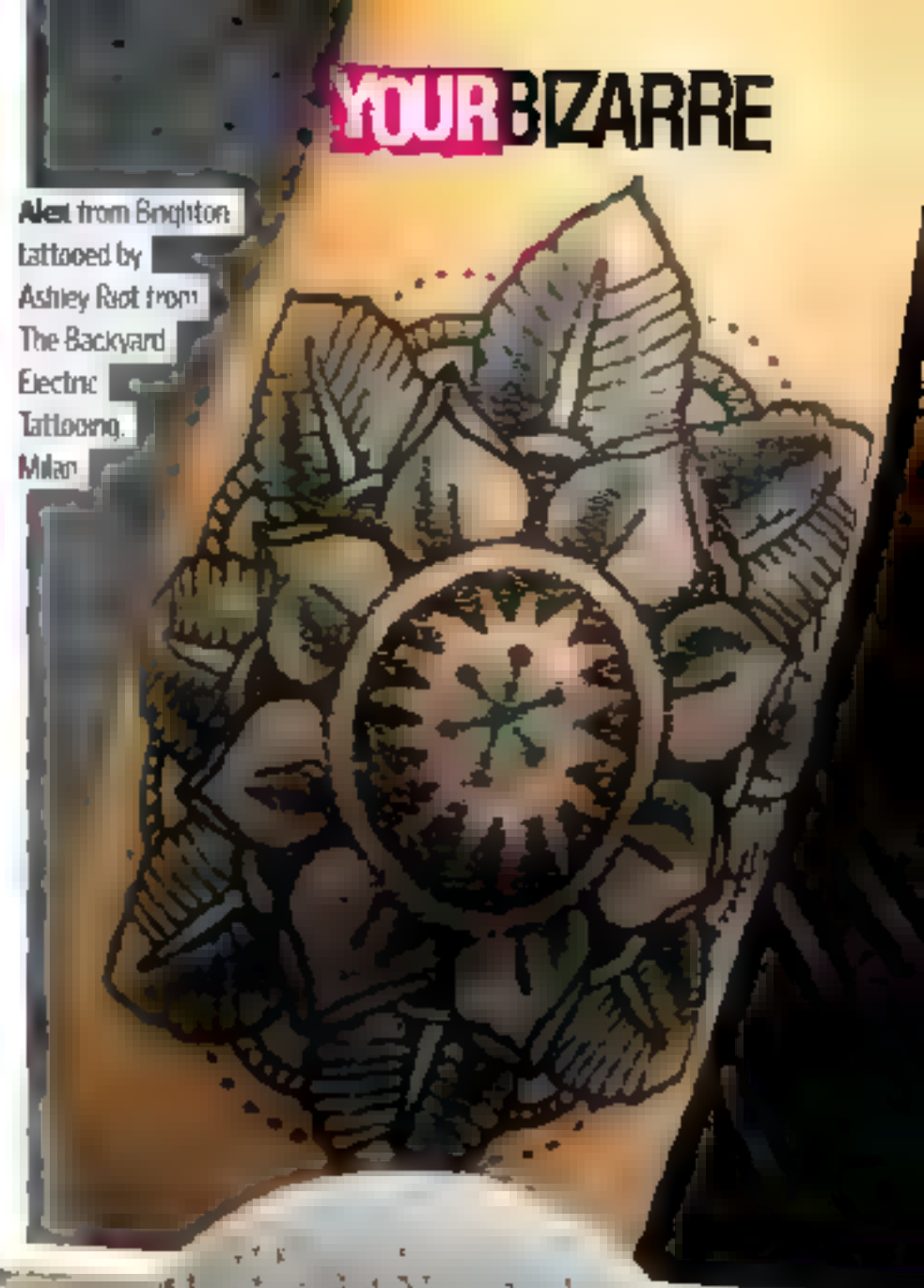
Rebecca Clarke from London getting her hand tattooed by Ami Adappa, AKA The Bearded Lady, from Karma Emporium, Worthing





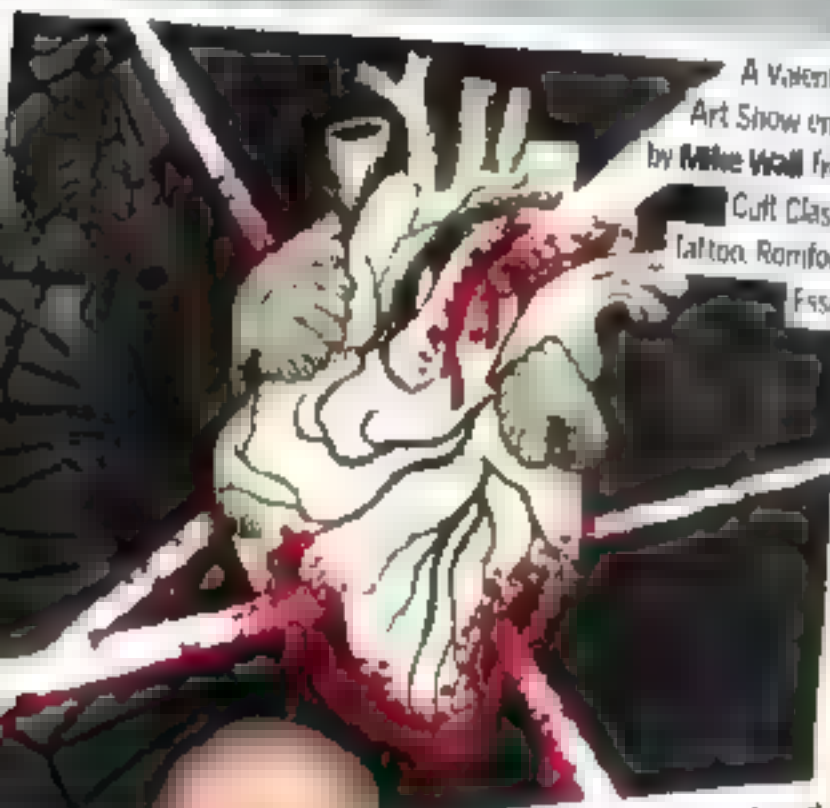
Brony Palmer from Nudge Nudge Ink Ink in Newbury getting tattooed by **Ricardo Pedro** of Rick's Custom Tattooing, Birmingham

Alex from Brighton tattooed by **Ashley Root** from The Backyard Electric Tattooing, Milan



Jethro Wood from The Circle London with **Keely Rutherford** from East Side Tattoo London

Vicky Morgan with neck tattoo by **Valene Vargas** from Frilli Street Tattoo London



A Valentine Art Show entry by **Mike Wall** from Cult Classic Tattoo, Romford, Essex



Dennis and Smudge, Hell's Angels from Sussex. Dennis owns Death Or Glory Tattoos in Brighton



A kasa-obake demon on **Whitton** by **Dan Sinner** of Luxembourg Electric Arts

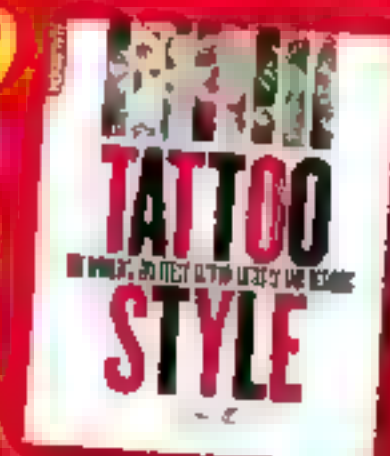
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YOU TAPPU!

The hottest new ink submitted via the 69p iPhone app, *Tappu! Tattoo Studio Volume 1*

WHAT IS TAPPU?

Tappu! Tattoo Studio Volume 1 is a new iPhone app that showcases the world's most stunning body art.

Featuring interviews with world-class ink-singers such as Angelique Houtkamp, Tin-Tin and Jesse Smith, detailed histories of six of the world's most popular ink styles, and galleries that feature many *Bizarre* readers snapped at British conventions, *Tappu!* is the best tattoo app on the market. And it's only 69p.

The app also features a built-in camera option which allows users to send photos of their ink directly to the *Tappu!* team. We'll be showcasing our favourite submissions in *Bizarre* each month and awarding a brilliant prize to our favourite ink, so there's never been a better time to get your tats out.

What are you waiting for? Search the Apple App Store, download *Tappu! Tattoo Studio Volume 1* and join the party!



revolution at Tappu.co.uk

TOP TIPS!

If you're submitting ink via *Tappu!*, here are some pointers for creating prize-winning pics.

- Take your pictures using the highest quality photo setting. If your picture is nice and sharp, it's more likely to feature in the magazine.
- Spend time getting the lighting as good as possible to capture the true beauty of your tattoo. Dark and grotty images will be rejected.
- Hold your iPhone steady and try to make the final image as sharp as you can.
- Try to avoid strong sunlight and nasty backgrounds. Clean and clear pics are more likely to be winners.



INK OF THE MONTH

YOUR PRIZE!

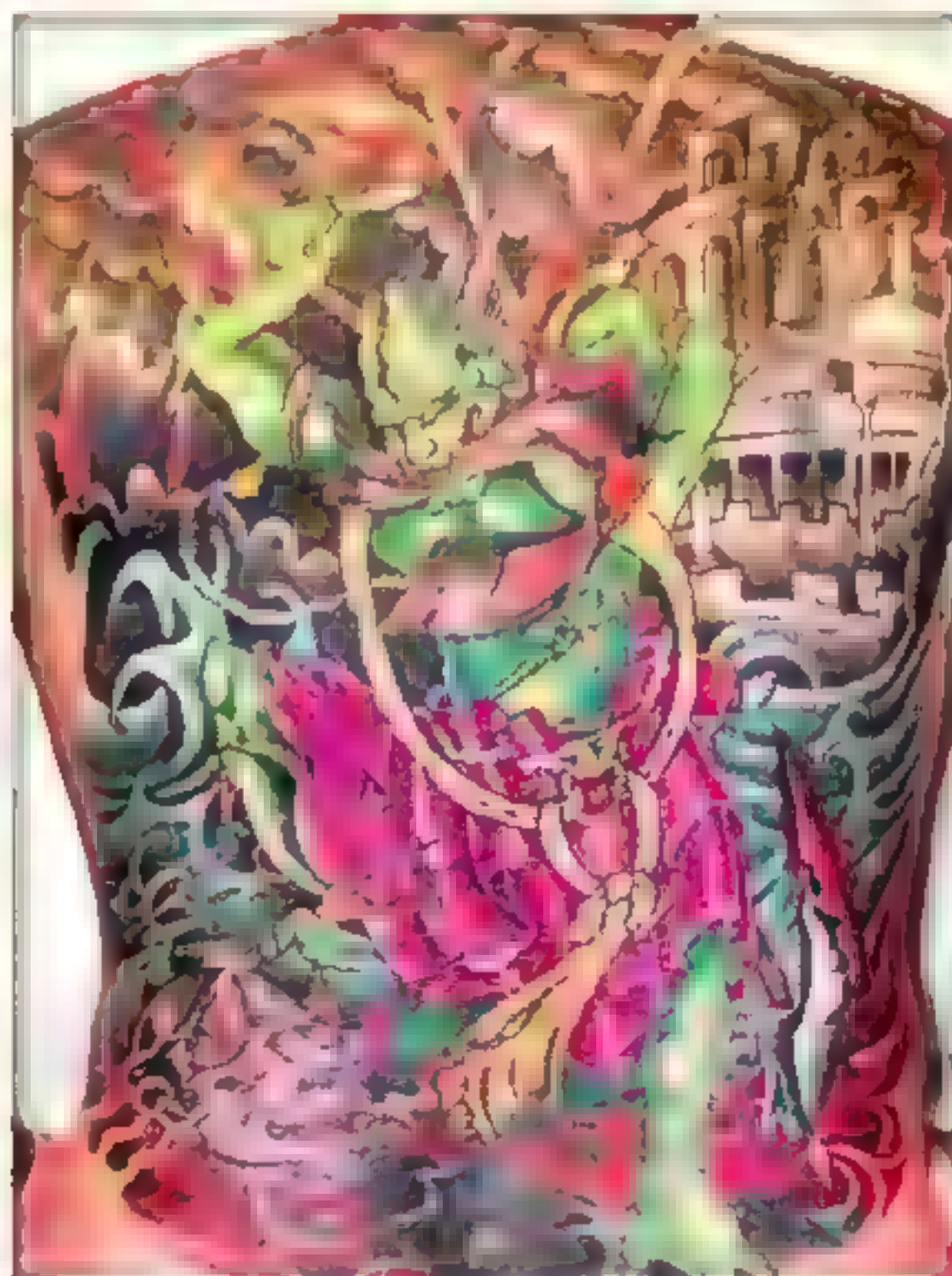
Ink Of The Month winners will each receive a sweet new T-shirt, courtesy of our mates at Bitemark Apparel. See Bitemark's full range of T-shirts at Bitemarkapparel.com



HANNAH SOUTHGATE, KING'S LYNN

ARTIST Mike Harper - East Coast Ink, King's Lynn

HANNAH SAYS "I chose this design because I love pretty things, and dinosaurs. Even as I'm getting more and more covered, most of my friends and family still love my tattoos. I got my mum into tattooing and she's had a few now. I love customising my appearance and having things that no one else does. I love old school designs, but in colour I have a long list of plans for new ink - I'm planning designs for both legs and a huge backpiece within the next couple of years."



JOSEPH MAZZELLA, JACKSON, USA

ARTIST Richie Pan - Dark Star Tattoo, New Jersey, USA

JOSEPH SAYS "This backpiece is an unfinished cover-up. I chose the main character through researching Japanese designs, and my artist selected the background for it. It's currently under construction, and will extend onto my ribs. We are working on ideas for what we will add next. Along with the ribs, my groin and legs are still in the planning stages. I have plans to touch-up older work on my arms and maybe undergo some laser lightening and a cover-up of my left upper arm. I'm a work in progress."

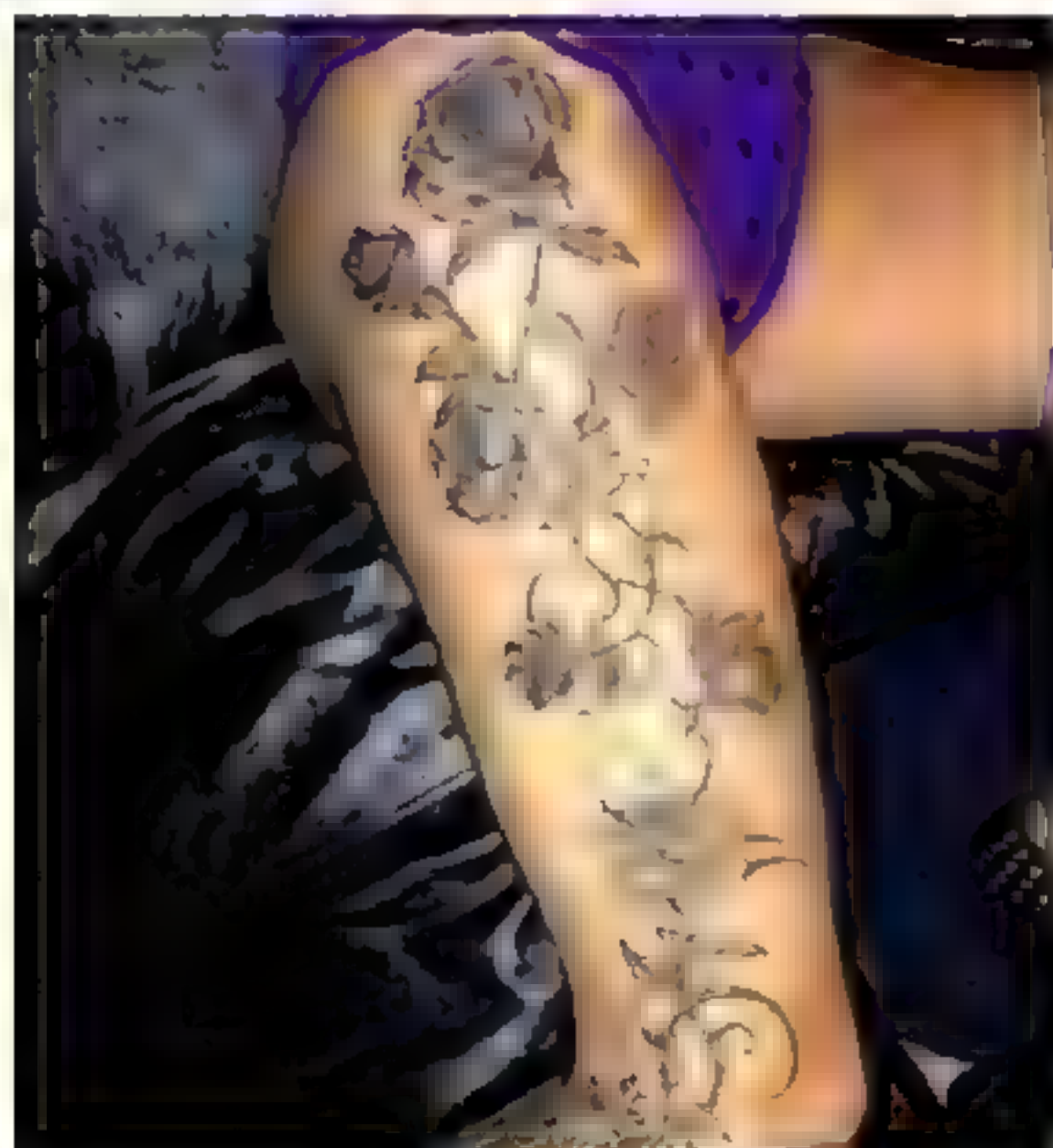


BUC WHEELER, SOUTHAMPTON

ARTIST Ben - Tattoo BOOM, Southampton

BUG SAYS "I'd wanted my knuckles tattooed for a long time, and I wanted something different. They were originally done by my friend Stef, but it wasn't in a studio and the ink didn't hold well - as you'll find with a lot of hand tattoos - so another friend, Ben at Tattoo BOOM, went over them and they've held well since. I really couldn't give a fuck if they offend people. It wasn't my intention to offend

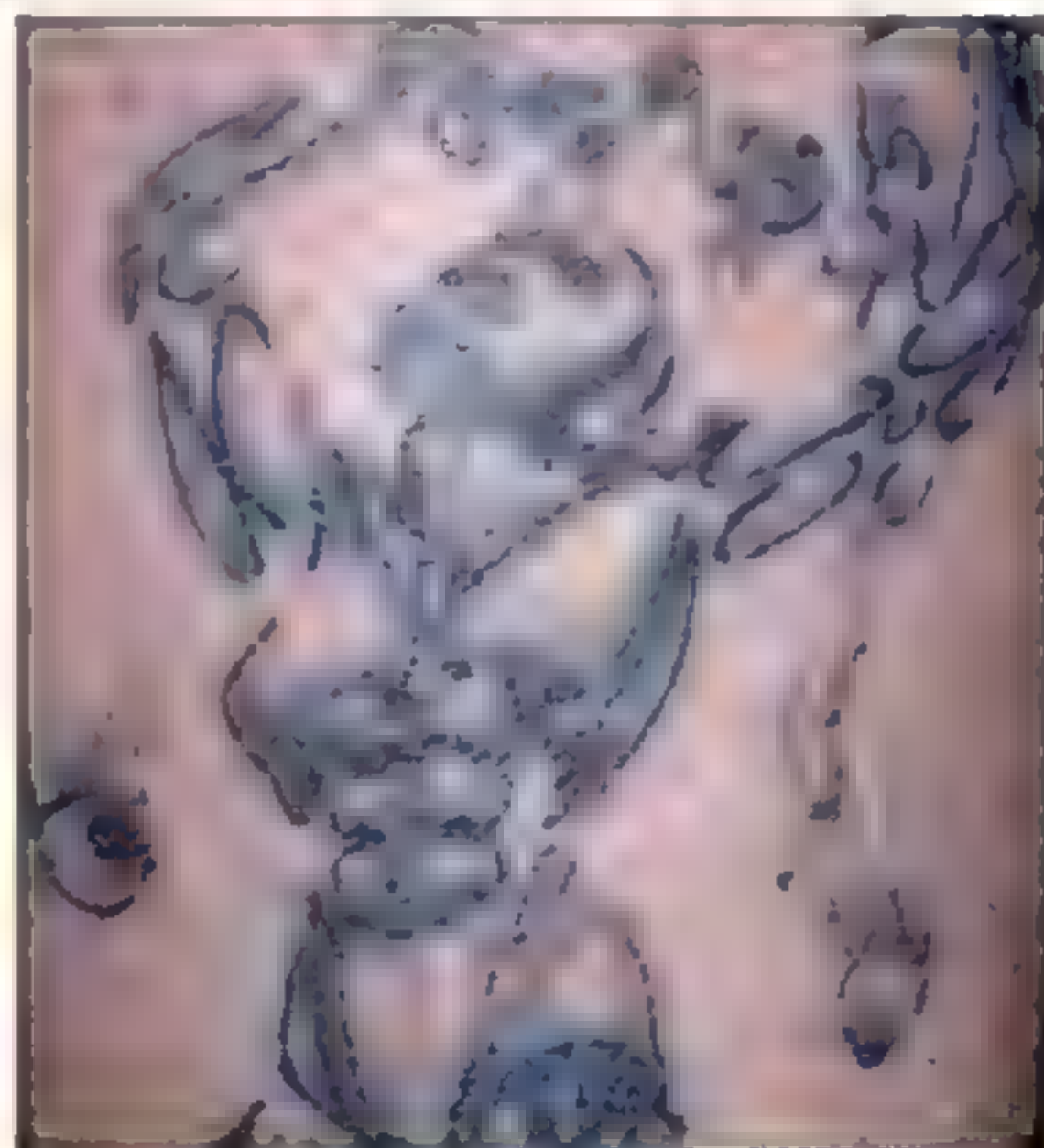
- it's more about being humorous. My family hate my tattoos, but my friends' reactions are different. I think a lot of girls assume our sex life is going to be a bit more scary or exciting than it turns out to be. Why do I like having tattoos? Because I'm a cool motherfucker! Being honest, tattoos are an addiction. People are beautiful with or without ink - probably sexier with tattoos, but of course I'm biased. To be able to walk around with a work of art on you? That's fucking great. Who wouldn't want to walk around wearing 'The Birth Of Venus' if they could?"



LUCY JESSUP, MILTON KEYNES

ARTIST Pete 'The Uncle' Haughton - MK Tattoo, Milton Keynes

LUCY SAYS "This design was started because I wanted to hide a vein behind my knee, and also because I wanted a yellow rose tattoo on my hip covered up. In 2016 I will turn 40 years old - and I always said that I'd be a lot more tattooed by the time I reached that landmark age! A lot of my friends and family like my tattooed leg. I love tattoos because they're so personal. I'd like to get some more ink started on my butt and on my back later this year."



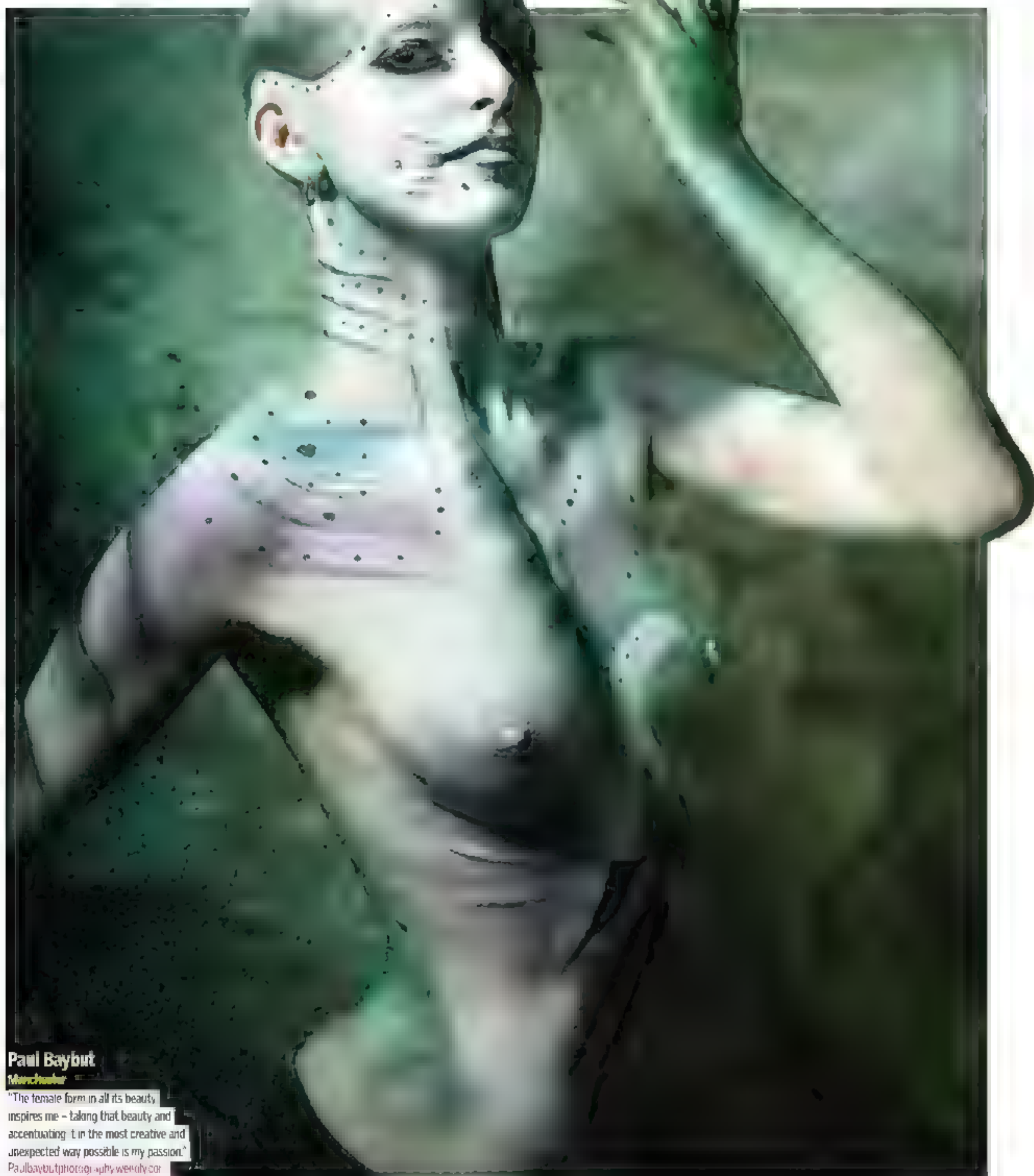
MICHAEL ANTONY DIGBY, KENT

ARTIST Unknown artist - Pagans Echo, Canterbury

MICHAEL SAYS "I found this ice warrior design in a flash art magazine and was inspired as soon as I saw it. To me, it represents looking at my former self, and being ashamed of the things I did. This is why the figure is looking at another him, and pulling his eyes out. I prefer colour tattoos to black and grey designs. The range of inks and techniques that are available today are amazing. My parents quite like my tattoos, but my grandparents are appalled by them!"

YOUR BIZARRE

YOUR DOODLES & MASTERPIECES Readers' Art



Paul Baybut

March 2014

"The female form in all its beauty inspires me - taking that beauty and accentuating it in the most creative and unexpected way possible is my passion."

Paulbaybutphotography.wordpress.com



MORE ART
THIS WAY!

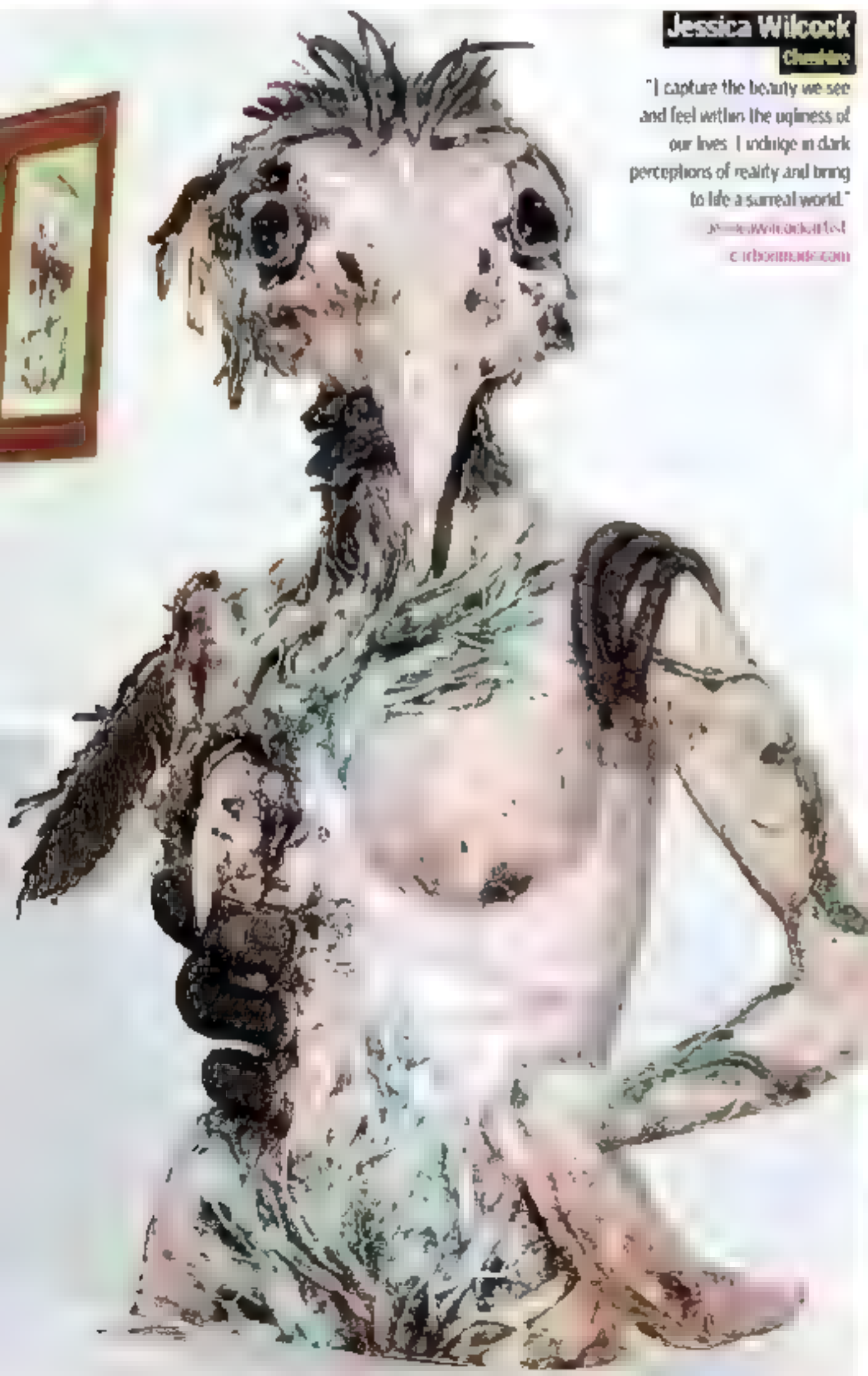


Carlwallow-Fink

London

"There are quasi-religious themes at play in my work. I like to think my art captures a sense of whimsical, eerie enchantment."

carlwallow-fink.com



Jessica Wilcock

Cheshire

"I capture the beauty we see and feel within the ugliness of our lives. I indulge in dark perceptions of reality and bring to life a surreal world."

jessicawilcockart.co.uk
c.bonnamy.com



Tim Stepiens

Cleveland

"This portrait of Ricki Hall is part of a series called 'The Broken Circus' a curious collection of intense souls connected by themes of love, loss, disappointment and predilection."

artproject.net



© Lindsey Brown

Hide,

NOT MINK

BE COMFORTABLE IN YOUR OWN SKIN,
AND LET ANIMALS KEEP THEIRS.

Sabrina Kelley,

pin-up model & icon, for **PETA**

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CHARLS!

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BIZARRE'S

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Vixens

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JENNA DARK

28, BOSTON, USA

"I'm an adorable ball of geeky glitter!
My hottest fantasy involves being taken
while in complete sensory deprivation.
I love the variety and amazing content
Bizarre brings together each issue."



EDENALTMODELUK

28, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

"I'm the lovechild of Chucky and Jessica Rabbit. I'm socially awkward and have the capacity to make any situation weird. I once shook hands at the end of a date. Give me Katy Perry in latex, anytime and anywhere!"

PICTURE: STEVE CLAY / PHOTOGRAPHY

**SHONDA
LAURELEE
MACKEY**

26, ARIZONA, USA

"One morning after a party at the Playboy Mansion, a bunch of us were in the bathroom when we smelt something really bad. We turned around to see some girl shitting in the middle of the floor! WTF!"

RED-HOT!
SEE 100s MORE SEXY ALT. GIRLS
ONLINE AT ULTRAVIXENS.NET

HOT GIRLS! LIVE CHAT! EXPLICIT PICS! JOIN ULTRAVIXENS.NET!



**LILBOCREEP
AKA
JESSICAKENDALL**

29, WASHINGTON, USA

"I once took part in a ghost hunt in an abandoned hotel. After calling it quits for the night, I had my picture taken with another investigator. In the background of the photo was a misty face smiling behind me."

PHOTOGRAPH BY: DEBBIE HANLEY FOR ULTRA VIXENS PHOTOGRAPHY

MEGSYVICIOUS

20, BRISTOL

"I'm a pint-sized curvy alt. model who loves heavy metal, burlesque and horror movies. My biggest achievement was overcoming my body issues and gaining confidence."

Bizarre really celebrates the female form."

HOT GIRLS! LIVE CHAT! EXPLICIT PICS! JOIN ULTRAVIXENS.NET!



OUR NEW FAVES

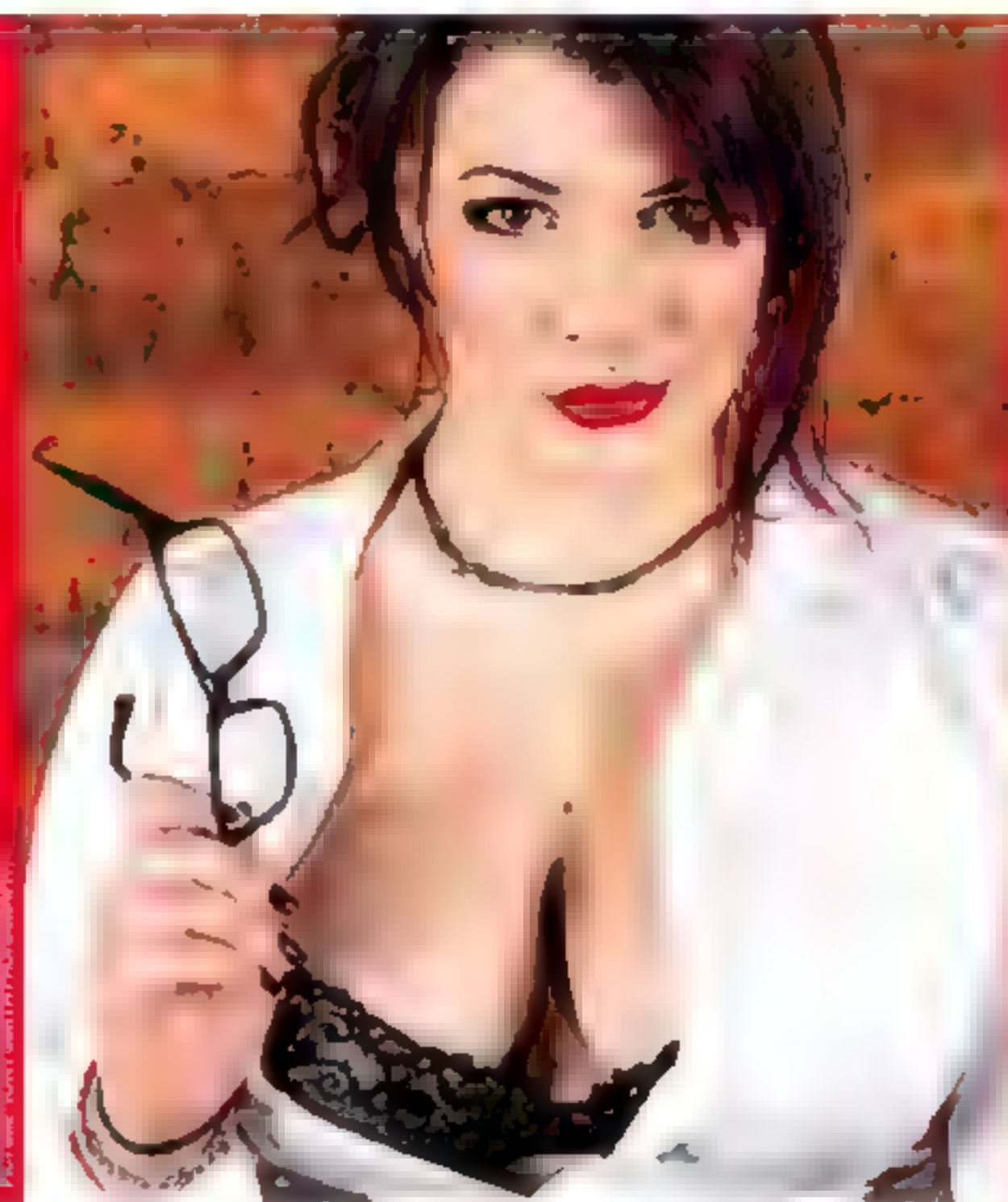
BIZARRE ART DIRECTOR DAVE KELSALL AND MANDATRON JUDGE NEW ARRIVALS ON ULTRAVIXENS.NET



TUESDAY SAKURA

Mandatron says: "This gorgeous shot is totally different from Tuesday's usual laid-back style, but a lot of her self-taken pictures are just as eye-catching as this one for Valkyrie Corsets. Take a better look at those *Donnie Darko* and *Spirited Away* tattoos on her [Ultravixens.net](#) profile!"

Dave Kelsall says: "Great attention to detail in this shot. Everything looks really well considered and perfectly styled. Or maybe it was just luck... who knows, eh? PS. Great hair! It looks like a 1950s horror icon crossed with a badger."



MIA METALL

Mandatron says: "Holy cleavage, Batman! Mia Metall's 'bad teacher' shoot is sure to make your heart race. This Lancaster lass likes a man in uniform and fantasises about seducing an officer after he arrests and handcuffs her. Look Mia up on [Ultravixens.net](#) for more!"

Dave Kelsall says: "The 'naughty teacher / librarian removing her glasses with a subtle smirk, a tussle of hair and an open blouse is a classic look that I've long admired... and just look how that mole leads your eye down to her huge wangs! Well done. A+."

WEB-CAM!

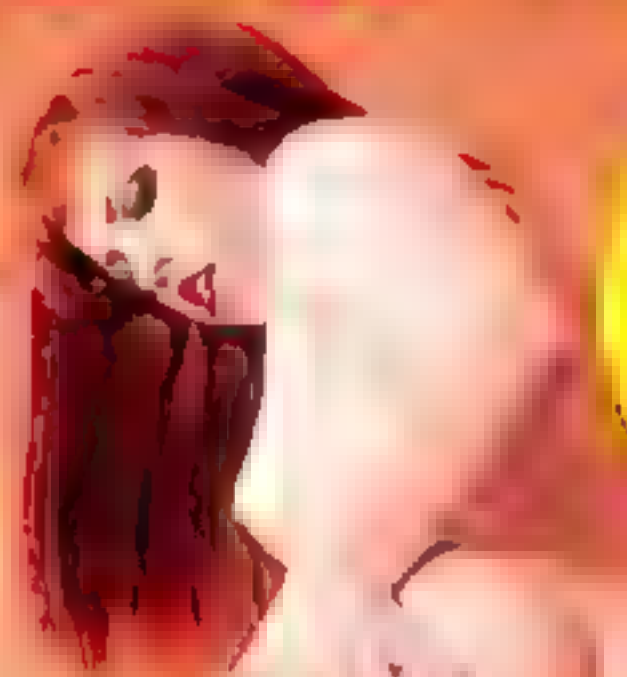
IT'S EASY TO MAKE MONEY ON [ULTRAVIXENS.NET](#)

Girls! Want to make extra cash? Then sign up to [UltraVixens.com](#) and upload VIP content - that is, your sexier, darker, and kinkier material. This content can only be viewed by other [UltraVixens.net](#) members, who can award purple hearts to their favourite girls.

Each purple heart you receive is worth £1! Earn more by signing up to be a LIVE CHAT Ultra Vixen and use the biggest all-girl webcam service to get closer to your fans. For more info, head over to: [http://www.ultravixens.net](#)

MEET THEM ALL ONLINE ULTRAVIXENS.NET

TOO HOT FOR BIZARRE



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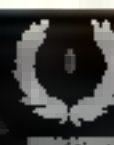


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IN THE MORGUE

Got an ailment? Feeling under the weather? Let naughty night nurse **Masumi Max** give you a thorough examination in her secret hospital. From dismembered body parts to walls of plaster Masumi boobs, there's no reason to be afraid. But plenty of reasons to be turned on...

Ah, the joyous stench of hospitals. The gentle slice of a scalpel at work. The unmistakable grind of a corpse being wheeled into its darkened cubbyhole. There are plenty of reasons to feel a little uncomfortable around hospitals and mortuaries, so we thought we'd try and sex them up a little. And why not, eh?

Cue fetish superstar Masumi Max to work her medical magic in an abandoned hospital in California. Of course, she also brought with her tales of rubbery fingers, cannibalistic hamsters and gnsly dinner parties. Maybe you need to be careful after all. Just sayin.

What prompted you to do a sexy medical shoot in an abandoned morgue?

It was mostly Holly's idea (the photographer) - she chose the location so we could do some sets for Halloween. Come to think of it, I do have a lot of latex nurse outfits at home, but I'm kind of afraid of hospitals.

PHOTOGRAPHY
HOLLY RANDALL

MAKE UP
I AM SIM

HAIR MAKE UP & STYLING
MASUMI MAX

Were the pictures shot inside a real morgue?

The photos were shot at the Linda Vista Community Hospital, which a creepy abandoned hospital in a dodgy neighbourhood of Los Angeles. It's used by the film industry, and they often leave fake blood and body parts behind. The real morgue is in another part of the building, but the one in my shoot was built for a movie. I shot there once before, and after a long day my assistant locked her keys in the car. So when everyone else went home, we were left behind in the dark. It reminded me of how some horror films start two chicks stranded at night due to car troubles.

Yes, very Halloween II. Do you get grossed out easily with medical / surgery stuff?

I have quite a strong stomach. One of my friends is a mortician, and he sneaked me into where he worked. He tried to freak me out a few times. He threw a toe at me - which I caught! - and he pushed a large container of severed, de-brained heads at me. The most unsettling thing is that I now know human heads smell like beef. I don't think I ever wanted to know that! Actually, →





FRIEND OF MINE WHO'S A **MORTICIAN**

SNEAKED ME INTO THE
MORGUE WHERE HE WORKS.
THE MOST UNSETTLING THING
ABOUT IT WAS THAT HUMAN
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THE MOVIE GINGERDEAD
MAN VS EVIL BONG HAS
AN ENTIRE WALL OF MY
BOOBS!



DEAD SEXY

I find medical science fascinating. I watch a lot of science programs, and I find nanotechnology incredibly interesting. It's amazing what they can do nowadays. So imagine what it will be like in the future. Lost a leg? No problem, let's just insert these nanobots.

What's the most squeamish thing you've ever seen in real life? We get freaked out when we see dislocated fingers...

Oh my God, you would be terrified of my fingers! I'm double-jointed, and it's like my fingers are made of rubber. I've seen all sorts of things that have made me feel ill, but the first thing that comes to mind was I saw my pet hamster eat its babies, and I couldn't stop it. Then I remembered my last trip to Japan. I was at a group dinner with the promoters that hired me. They didn't speak English, and our translator was drunk so he just kept fucking with me. It was hilarious, until they brought out the main course. It was a large, live lobster. The chef started to crack and cut into various parts of it, serving everyone portions while it was still alive. The poor lobster stayed alive until it was almost all gone. It was horrific watching it, watching me. It kept moving its head and eyes, and I knew it was in pain. Naturally, I didn't have any, and I kept asking the translator if they could kill the food before serving it – and he translated to the promoters that I was scared of it. A lot was lost in translation and they all started teasing me. I have a vivid imagination, and I imagined what it would be like if we humans were the ones being filleted and served to a more dominant species of aliens. I'd rather be dead if something was going to eat me. I can think of nothing more horrific than watching yourself get eaten. I'm a vegetarian now.

That's a sad and grisly story. Do you have any kind of medical fetish, or find playing doctors and nurses sexy?

My dermatologist is pretty hot, but I don't spend enough time in hospitals to know if they're as sexy as TV shows make them out to be. I don't play doctor in the bedroom, but I played one in a TV show pilot. I prefer playing 'master and servant' games, like in that movie *Secretary*. I'm dominant by nature. I don't like being told what to do by anyone, unless I've completely consented to do so.

Medical play can be extreme, and clients often enjoy enemas or catheters up their penis. We've even heard of guys liking to have their testicles sutured. Sexy or gross?

I know about this. I've been to a few secret body mod conventions where there seems to be a lot of anger towards the penis! I don't think it's sexy or gross, it's just not for me – but each to his own. I'm in a documentary called *Modify*, where I declare that you should do whatever you want, so long as you're a consenting adult and whatever you do doesn't hurt anyone else. I don't think I'll ever understand beating up your penis, or cutting off your arm, but it's not for me to judge. And if these people aren't hurting anyone else, it's not for me or anyone else to condemn them. But, for me, cutting off perfectly good body parts doesn't make sense, especially the ones you use to walk and carry things. I watched a program that described it as a brain connection issue, where your mind doesn't recognise a certain body part, in turn creating the urge to remove it. This makes sense, but not the

actual removal, because you should still be aware that you need that arm or leg, regardless of what your brain is telling you. But how would I know? You only truly understand something if you experience it, and I have not.

You've recently starred in two horror films.

What can you tell us about them?

I appeared in two new horror films by Charles Band for his company Full Moon Horror last year – *Gingerdead Man Vs Evil Bong* and *Unlucky Charms*. If you love squeamish gore, then be sure to check them out. They have lots of disgustingly great scenes. *Gingerdead Man Vs Evil Bong* also has an entire wall of my boobs. Seriously! I had my boobs 'cast' for the role, as Charles wanted to see if we could get 'most boobs in one scene' into the Guinness World Records. I also have my first speaking role in *Unlucky Charms*. It was like going on-stage for the first time. I was shaky and nervous. It's a fun movie, and some of the Playboy Playmates and Jeryl Prescott from *Walking Dead* also star in it. I play the role of Mika, an Asian with attitude. Basically, I curse a lot. *Gingerdead Man Vs Evil Bong* has a different vibe – I saw the first film, which starred Gary Busey and Tommy Chong, and I just had to be in the sequel. It's a film for the stoners. And, yes, I'm 420 friendly.

And both films have just come out!

They're available on Redbox, Netflix and at FullMoonHorror.com. You can even buy my boobs! Or at least my boobie moulds. →

"I'D RATHER BE DEAD IF SOMETHING WAS GOING TO EAT ME. I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING MORE HORRIFIC THAN WATCHING YOURSELF GET EATEN!"





DEAD SEXY

"I OWN A LOT OF LATEX
NURSE COSTUMES, BUT I'M

AFRAID OF HOSPITALS"

That's gone straight to the top of our Christmas list! You've just redesigned your website. Any exciting new content in the pipeline?

My site is more like a community, members have profiles and win prizes every month. There are over 45,000 images and 400 videos, so I figured I could open it up a bit by offering a free membership role for users that don't want to pay. A full membership is still required for full access, and it's worth it for all the content and features you get. I've even added a text / video chatroom and instant messenger with video capabilities that follow you whenever you view the site. The inspiration for this design came from one of my favourite movies of all time, *The Imaginarium Of Doctor Parnassus*. Visit my website iamTrouble.com - you'll love it.

We hear you're jetting over the UK in May for some fetish events. Can you give us any teasers?

Oh yes, I'm so excited! I'm booked to perform at the Torture Garden birthday event on 10 May in London, and at the Fetish Factory anniversary event three days in a row on 22-24 May. I'm doing one of my existing routines and unveiling a brand new one.

Any other exciting happenings in the world of Masumi Max?

My make-up company, I AM SIN, is doing very well. More stores are carrying my line and I'm working with lots of talented models and artists. I travel for my shows, and whenever I'm booked in a city that has a store carrying my line I do 'make-up events' in those shops. It's a great way to get honest feedback and see how my products look on other people.

Finally, who's the sexiest doctor of all time?
Duh - Dr Who!

Pah, you cheat. He's not even a real doctor!
(He isn't, right...?) (S)

Want more of Masumi? For the most up-to-date info, photos, videos, event information and news, visit her site, iamTrouble.com. It's Masumi's home on the internet! You can also find her on Twitter @masumimax.

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BIZARRE
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LORD OF PLEASURE AND SPAIN

Jesús 'Jess' Franco was the world's most prolific purveyor of weird, distressing, and sleaze-infused cinema. Following his recent passing, *Bizarre* looks back at the mysterious life of Spain's ultimate movie maverick...

BY
STEPHEN DAULTREY

ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF
THE FINE FOLIO FILMS
PLEASURES. JESS FRANCO
CINEMA, EDITED BY JACK
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BY GLITTER BOOKS

It takes a lot to get people off their fat arses these days. The internet has transformed us into a nation of procreating zombies where, bar wiping your butt, everything is achievable at the tap of a touch screen. From a modern perspective, that makes the wildly proactive achievements of Jess Franco seem even more extraordinary. With around 200 films to his credit, including Spain's first ever horror and grot flicks, it's fair to say the world doesn't make artists like it used to.

Once recognised by Guinness World Records as the most prolific film-maker ever to wield a camera, Franco could also be listed as the most outrageous. The Catholic Church once described him as the most dangerous film-maker alive. He's been dubbed Euro cinema's answer to



Jess Franco directing on set in the 1970s

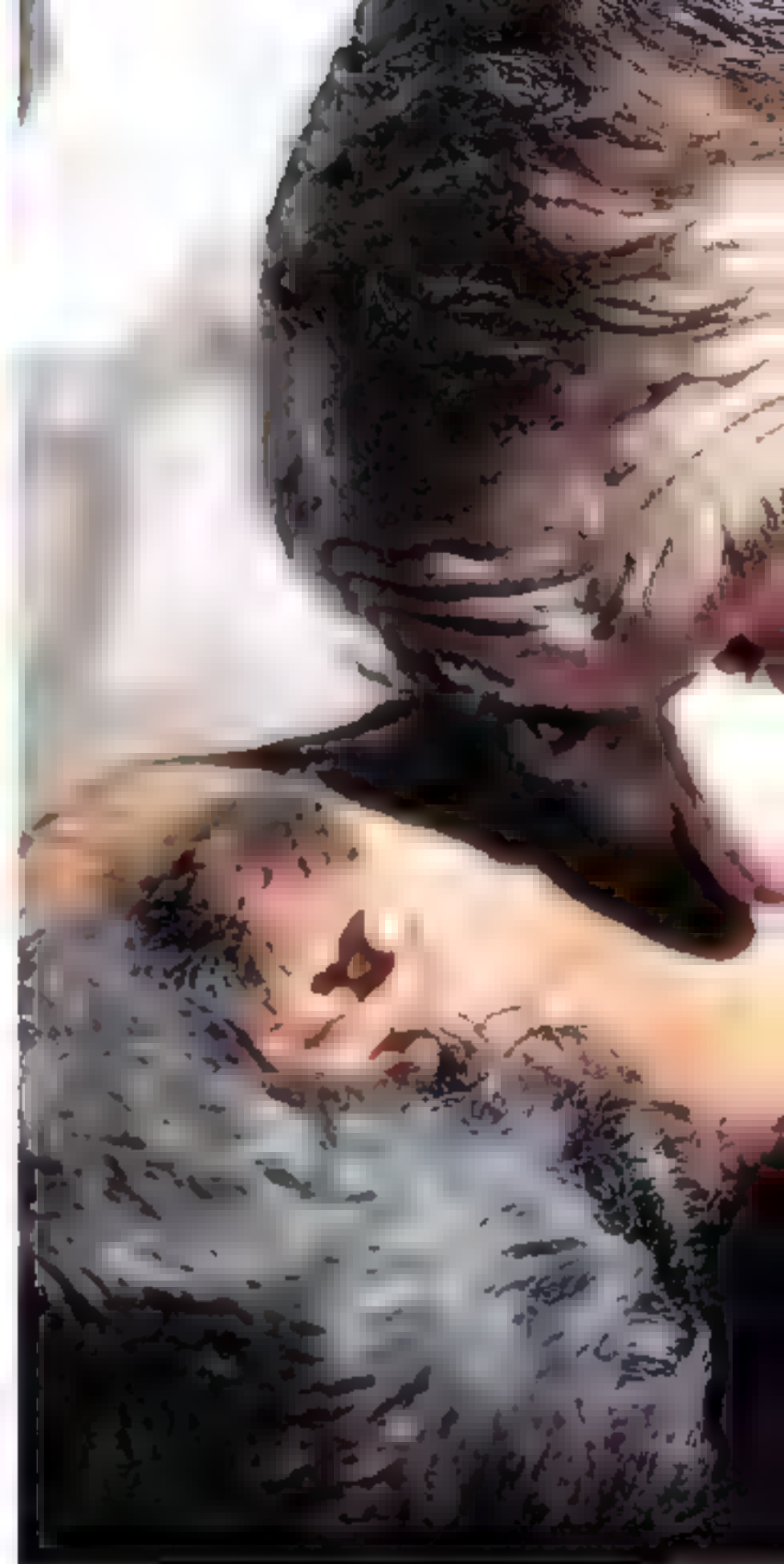
Ed Wood, and spun surreal horrors, lesbian prison romps and grubby pornos from hastily-written scripts and piddly budgets. Often calling on a core of loyal actors, including his wife, Lina Romay, Franco is as much reviled as he is revered.

Yet for loyal Francophiles, the director's divisiveness is

another reason to love him, and even his bad films are fun – just check out the hilarious dubbing and exaggerated comedy of 1996's *Vampire Killer Barbys*. But with so many films to watch, where does one begin?

“Back in 1990 I wrote an essay for the first issue of *Video Watchdog*, in which I said, ‘You can’t see one Franco film until you’ve seen them all,’” says Tim Lucas, who founded the iconic reviews mag and co-authored *Obsess on The Films Of Jess Franco*. “Franco himself singled out this comment for praise, and now that I’ve →





seen 140 of his 200+ movies, I have a better grasp of what I meant. His works are one big, ever-morphing serial that feature different permutations of the same group of characters and story lines. What Franco achieved is unlike anything else in horror and fantastic cinema."

BIRTH OF A MAVERICK

Born Jesus Franco Manera in Malaga, Spain, on 12 May 1930, Franco learned film-making in Paris, France, in the early 1950s.

A die-hard horror nut, as well as a decent jazz musician (he played trumpet and piano

in Parisian nightclubs), Franco always wanted to make scary films, but couldn't get financing due to perceived commercial limitations of the genre.

Although Franco cut his movie-making teeth directing musicals, he soon won funding for a self-penned surgical horror called *The Awful Dr. Orloff* (1962), after taking his producers to a screening of Hammer's *Brides Of Dracula* (1960). Franco's film told the tale of a surgeon grafting the skin of kidnapped women onto his mutilated daughter, and was effectively a gratuitous reworking of the 1960 French masterpiece *Eyes Without A Face*. It was not only Franco's first chiller, but is also recognised as Spain's first horror film. And with scenes of surgical mutilation, it was heavy shit for 1962.

The underground success of *The Awful Dr. Orloff* saw Franco embark on his 'horror phase' for the next 10-15 years, which included reappearances of Dr. Orloff and his blind, Slavic henchman, Morpho, both in direct sequels and other related works. But there was little chance of any gruesome flicks being screened in Spain under the fascist rule of General Franco (no relation, by the way) – so, instead, the maverick director galloped around Europe, making surreal, sordid thrillers in different countries, often under a number of pseudonyms.

By the end of the 1960s, Franco's strange films had attracted the attention of British producer Harry Alan Towers, who gave him hefty budgets to make a variety of eroticised oddball and Gothic chillers starring the likes of Christopher Lee and Klaus Kinski. Films produced during this period include *The Blood Of Fu Manchu* (1968), *Venus In Furs* (1968), *The Bloody Judge* (1969), *Count Dracula* (1970), *She Killed In Ecstasy* (1970), *Dracula Vs Frankenstein* (1971), and the

FRANCIO GALLIVANTED AROUND EUROPE, MAKING SORDID THRILLERS IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES





brilliantly titled *Vampiros Lesbos* (1971), which is perhaps Franco's most celebrated work.

In 1971, Franco discovered 17-year-old starlet Lina Romay, a self-confessed exhibitionist. Totally smitten, Franco cast the sultry brunette as his lead in 1973's *The Female Vampire*, marking the start of a beautiful relationship, both personal and professional, that culminated in them getting married in 2008.

The Female Vampire was a hallucinatory, erotic vampire romp, and Franco shot and edited two versions: one typical bloodsucker yarn, where Romay's nocturnal scavenger drinks blood to survive, and a more risqué alternative, where her preferred quaff is sex goo. However, due to censoring laws, the latter version could only be shown once pornography became legal in Spain.

WOMEN BEHIND BARS

In the mid-1970s, when Spain's military dictatorship collapsed and censorship laws were relaxed, Franco shot a bunch of lesbian prison exploitation flicks with Swiss sleaze producer, Erwin C Dietrich. During this period, Franco made such sweaty, sadistic bar-rattlers as *Barbed Wire Dolls* (1976) and *Love Camp* (1977), where a sadistic female warden decapitates female prisoners in a jungle brothel.

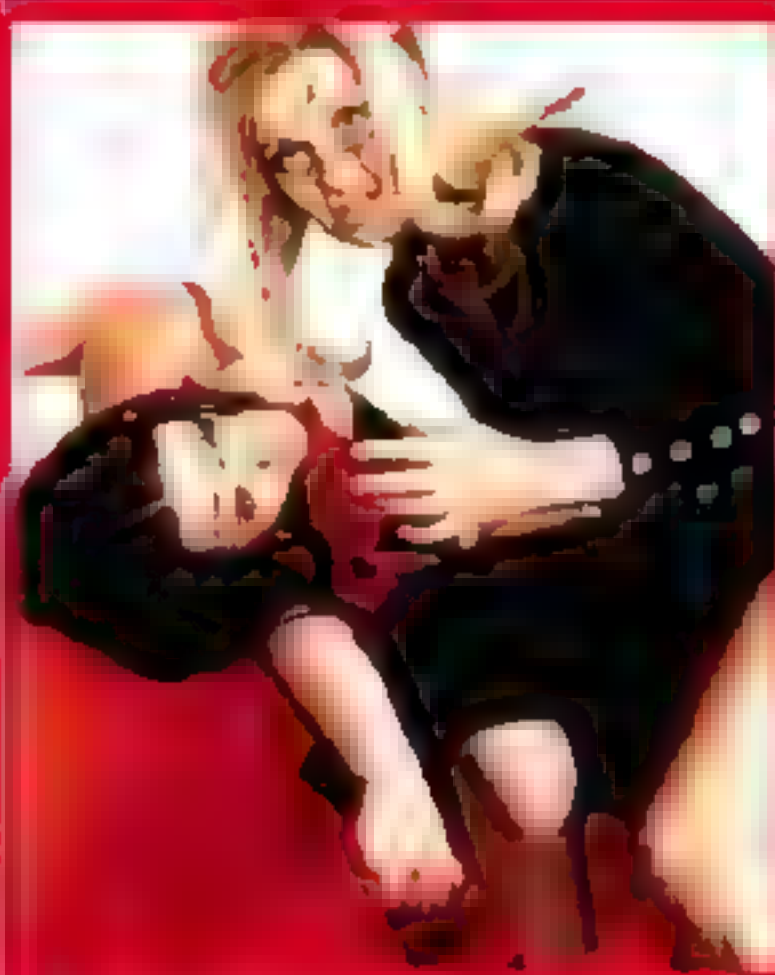
But it wasn't solely jail-bound jollies that titillated the film maker. Through Dietrich, Franco also created his own twist on *Jack The Ripper* (1976) starring Klaus Kinski, which perfectly captured Franco's weirdness: a strange mongrel of a film, it was inspired by the famous Victorian killing spree, but took enormous artistic license to spin an entirely different theory. The film's plodding script, no doubt penned at typical Franco breakneck speed, was devoid of →

FRANC-LY THE BEST

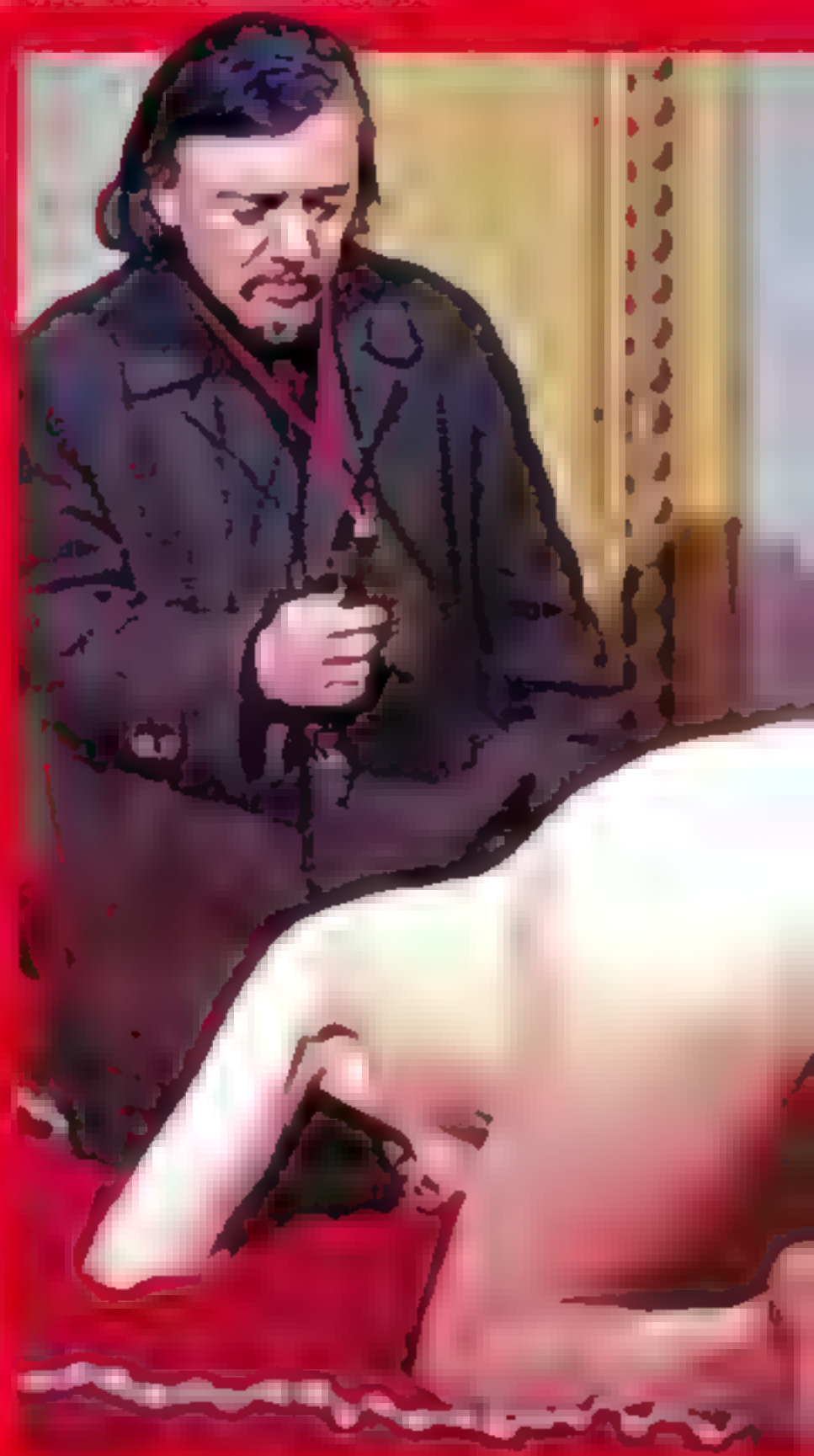
VENUS IN FURS 1969



VAMPIROS LESBOS 1971



SHE KILLED IN ECSTASY 1971



EXORCISM 1975

VAMPIRE KILLER BARBYS 1996





FRANCO'S CONTRIBUTION TO BIZARRE CINEMA REMAINS ENTIRELY UNSURPASSED

tension, especially because the killer's identity, played by Kinski, is known from almost the first frame. But, aesthetically, the film was dank, dream like and gloomy, and coloured expertly by Kinski's maudlin performance. It was paradoxically arthouse and trashy, and for gore fans delivered some typically shocking scenes of surgical mutilation, such as Kinski sucking off of a victim's breasts. And, for once, the narrative made sense. Kind of.

"Some people have trouble with Franco's films because they've been brainwashed by Hollywood technique and think there is only one way movies should look and flow," says Lucas. "Franco's approach to cinema was unique in that it was compulsive and obsessive: he didn't just create an oeuvre, he created a continuum

— a jazzy world of crazy excess for an elite group of followers to get lost in."

Franco described himself as a "voyeur", and like other makers of Euro cult cinema such as Jean Rollin, he filmed the female form with grace, irrespective of the subject matter.

THE FINAL YEARS

In the 1980s Franco continued to make more dirty person films, with 1981's *Sadomania* being one of the most famous. Relocating to Spain in the early 80s, Franco became synonymous with hardcore pornography and, once gore was made legal in Spain in 1984, he made Spain's first ever adult flick, *Lillian: The Perverted Virgin*.

But Franco didn't abandon his other beloved genres. In 1988 he directed another brutal

surgery-based kidnap thriller, *Faceless* (also known as *Les Predateurs De La Nuit*), which marked a return of creepy scalpel-wielder Dr Orloff, played — as always — by Howard Vernon. Then, in the 1990s and early 2000s, his films became even more obscure and low budget, and he shot predominately sex-horror-comedies for the teen market, most of which were released directly onto VHS.

Throughout his career, Franco's rebellious films joyously mixed sex, sleaze, strangeness, horror and, occasionally, high art. They also showcased his love for jazz music, Franco's films often being loose, unpredictable and semi-improvisational, his low budgets affording him total freedom to shoot whatever the hell he wanted without studio or producer interference. A workaholic, Franco's insanely prolific output meant he sometimes shot three films at once, and it's claimed he could make as many as 10 films in a year. It certainly wasn't unusual for him to write scripts only hours before filming.

When Jess Franco died in April 2013, he was still announcing new projects. The official cause of his death was a stroke, but many speculate that he died of heartbreak, as his wife Lina cruelly passed away from cancer the previous year. But whether you love him, loathe him or have no idea what the hell was happening in his surreal films, for many Franco's contribution to bizarre cinema remains immense and, arguably, entirely unsurpassed. And, like we say in this digital, brain-melting age, it's likely to remain that way. For some time.

"I believe Jess Franco gave more of himself to the horror and fantasy genres than any other director, and I also believe that his wife Lina gave more of herself to the genre than any other woman," says Lucas. "What they created together is often shocking and excessive and exhibitionistic, but it was made possible by the love they had for one another, which lasted from the moment they met for the rest of their lives."

For a detailed biography of Jess Franco, plus a giant host of gratuitous images from his sick films, check out *Pornodelic Pleasures: Jess Franco Cinema*, which is out now, edited by Jack Hunter and published by Gutter Books.



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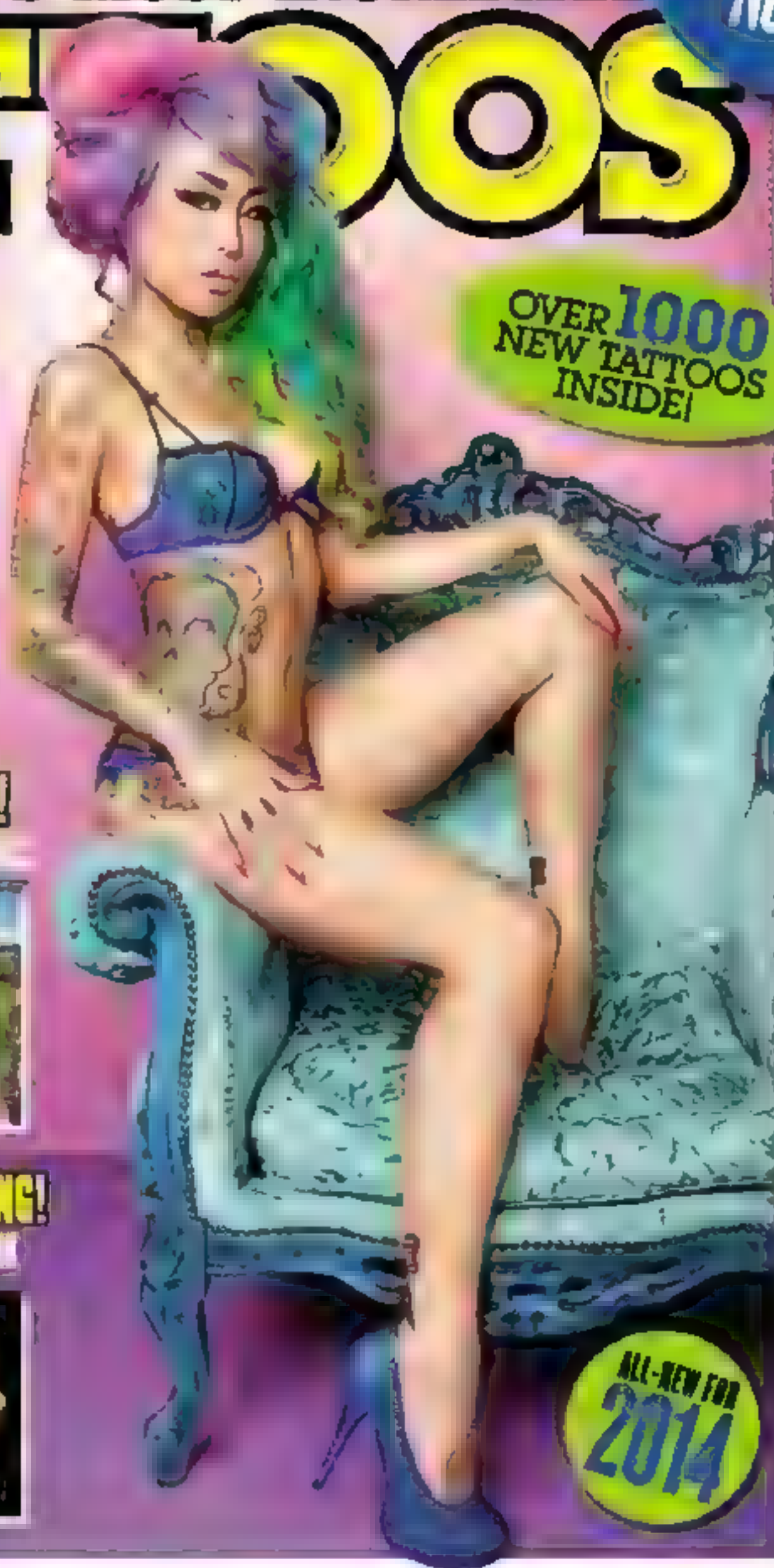
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SELF-MADE MAN

*Bizarre catches up with the world's first ever female-to-male (F2M) transsexual porn star and valued friend of the magazine, **Buck Angel**, to chat about a new film exploring his extraordinary life...*

WORDS AMANDA COHAN
PICTURES DUSTI CUNNINGHAM, DUSTYCUNNINGHAM.COM

If you've ever dared to delve into Bizarremag.com's spunk-splattered video archive, you may have seen two spoof commercials for the magazine with an eye-popping twist. And when we recently re-shared these clips with our Twitter followers, the star of these vintage ads – Bizarre's favourite macho man, Buck Angel – dropped us a line and our hearts melted all over again!

Believe it or not, it's been six years since we shot 'the man with a pussy' stripping down to his butt-cheeks in a laundrette, reading an issue of Bizarre as he waited for his washing to finish. In the time that's passed a documentary about Buck's life, *Mr Angel*, has triumphed at film festivals and earned prestigious awards.

We met Buck for a coffee in London to talk about transgender surgery, death threats, and his mission to bring new F2M porn stars to the world through directing his own "docu-porn" films.

It's great to have you back in the mag, Buck! Does London know how to have a good time?
I've been to many cities around the world, but London is one of the best places to party – you guys are nonstop! I wonder if it's because it's cold here, so you end up going to the pub a lot? But people in London don't seem to get wasted and mean, or stop you from enjoying yourself. London is pretty chilled out.

You were performing at a venue called The Box Soho on New Year's Eve. Tell us about it.
I have a simple 'strong man' routine where I act

macho, then drop my outfit to reveal my vagina! It shocks the hetero-normative members of the crowd if they don't know who I am. Afterwards, people greet me and ask questions about my body. They're so open-minded! They want to know more rather than saying, "Eww, that's creepy and freaky." I always get a positive response.

Do you generally receive acceptance worldwide and not just in London?

Definitely! I do a lot more public speaking now, rather than performances, but almost everywhere I go people are comfortable talking to me. They don't know what I have down there! Sometimes people think I've cut my penis off, or ask whether I've had a vagina put on. It's a compliment because I give off such a male presence that they'd never imagine I was born a woman. I want people to understand that transpeople like me are totally comfortable with their bodies.

Have you made any resolutions for 2014?

It's going to sound cheesy, but I don't feel like I'm doing anything negative with my life that I need to change. This might be the first year that I haven't made a resolution. People tell me that smoking cigars is bad, but it's not something I feel like I need to stop doing. I have a lot of positivity in my life. Last year was very strange, though. I don't want to say bad things happen for a reason, but you need to be prepared for the flow of life. I don't stifle my creativity because I'm worried that somebody will feel a certain way about me. If I'm passionate about something, I'll do it. I don't care! If I dropped dead right now, I don't feel like there's anything I should have done. I've moved to Mexico,

I travel a lot, and I don't worry. I'm thankful for my amazing life. It works! So be conscious, but don't deny yourself anything. . fuck that

Over six years ago a producer called Dan Hunt started making the documentary *Mr Angel* about you. Did you know each other previously?

Dan contacted me a year before he wanted to start filming, but at the time I wasn't ready to document my life. I was only interested in covering my adult work, as I'm a pioneer for transmale porn. Dan was happy with that, but I think he knew I'd change my mind eventually. As we started making a film about my work, I became more of a public speaker and my output was less porn specific. *Mr Angel* grew to be a documentary about my whole life. Dan's a smart man – he's like my brother now!

Did you expect the film would take six years to make?

The time it took wasn't just about getting the footage – there were financial delays. We looked for backing, but nobody wanted to support it because it dealt with sex. People in the US can be very sex phobic. We had to set up a Kickstarter campaign to get help from crowdfunding. But we received \$4,000 more than the initial target – people really wanted to see the film come to life! The extended time was the best thing to happen because, during those years, I became more willing to have my family involved in the documentary. My parents and my sister were filmed. I'm so happy about it – we've won tonnes of awards including a Telly Award for 'Best Social Issue Documentary of 2013' →



FANNY MAGNATE

That's huge! I don't think the film would've received that level of acceptance if we hadn't put the family stuff in it. There's a scene where my dad breaks down and cries – it's really intense

Speaking of Kickstarter, what do you think about crowdfunding for transitional operations? Surgery funds are a difficult topic. Normally when people donate towards something, they want something back – so they naturally question why they should help in the first place. Recently I had the idea of starting a non-profit website that would help transpeople learn how to make a product and sell it through an online marketplace. They would keep half of the money received, while a quarter went into a surgery fund that would help to pay for seven people to have their transitional operation, and the remainder went back to the website to keep it running. The transcommunity online accused me of trying to rip them off with a 'pyramid scheme'. Within one week of the website's launch, there was a barrage of ugly stuff written about me. I was so hurt and disgusted that I stopped it. Following that there was even more negativity, so I stepped away from it. When you're in the public eye, you become a target. Now I'm working on projects behind the scenes without putting my name on it. I don't do things for publicity – I want to give back and help people feel comfortable about their bodies.

You were awarded an AVN Award for 'Transsexual Performer Of The Year' in 2007. Perhaps this negativity comes down to jealousy? I couldn't believe I won that award – fuck, it was amazing! I'm still the only transman to win that title. In 2013 I was nominated for 'Mainstream Star Of The Year' at the AVN Awards, which is a huge honour because they're

like the Oscars of the porn world. Many of the porn stars nominated are better known in the mainstream world than I am, so it was huge!

Have you been nominated for any weird awards over the years?

I was nominated for an AVN Award for 'Most Outrageous Scene' – it was with an incredible transwoman called Allannah Starr. It was the first scene in the history of pornography that had a woman with a penis and a man with a vagina. While we were shooting it, the cameraman stopped us to say: "Buck – I've been filming porn for 30 years and this is blowing my mind!"

British artist Mark Quinn made a collection of sculptures featuring you and Allannah. I was blown away that he wanted to create a sculpture of me. He makes amazing art!

Last time I came to London, Mark gave me a miniature version of one of the solo sculptures – there are only ten in the world! I was honoured, but then had the problem of taking it home with me on the plane. He suggested I kept it in my carry-on luggage, but I was like, "Dude, it's a naked sculpture of a man with a vagina."

On the subject of sculpting, April Flores released the Voluptuous CyberSkin Pussy which was the first ever plus size orientated sex toy. Have you thought about releasing a toy of your own?

I'm making a sex toy with a company called New York Toy Collective. It's going to be versatile so that anyone can use it. We're working hard and hope to release it this year.

You've also been making your own film series called *Sexing The Transman*. Have you worked with any newcomers that could be potential award winners in the future?

I'd love to make new porn stars! I think there could be a few coming out of my series. The guys I feature haven't necessarily shot anything before – and although I'd love to work with them again, I travel a lot so it's hard for them to get continued exposure. F2M porn isn't a genre yet. The great thing about *Sexing The Transman* is it's more something I like to call 'docu-porn' – I interview the actors before I shoot them. It's a crossover concept that can be talked about in an educational environment. It's not just about the fucking, the viewer can learn about his body and sexuality. Some of the guys haven't had their 'top' surgery, which means they still have breasts. When they let me film them topless and masturbating, it's phenomenal!

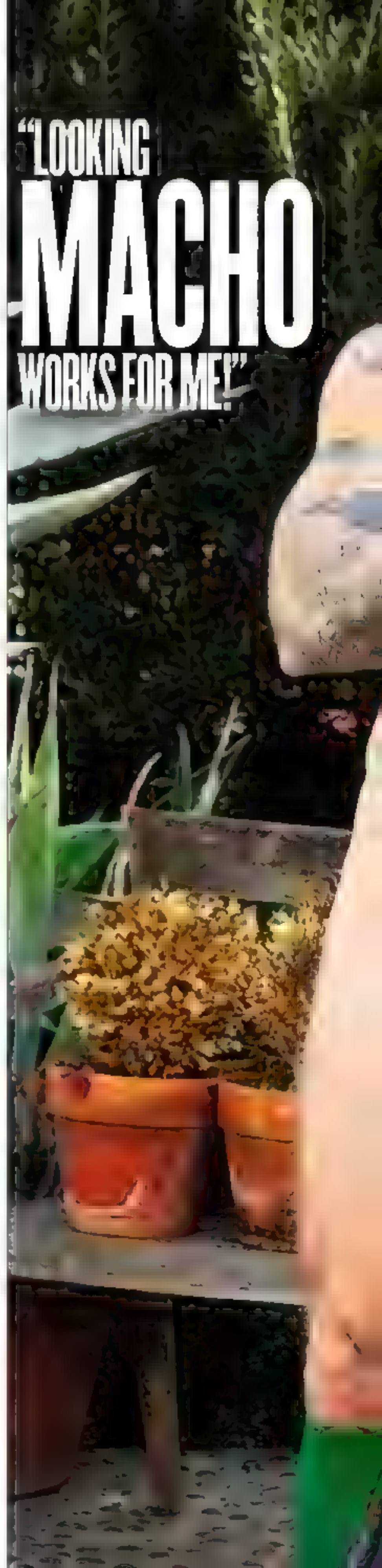
I'm a director and producer now, I'm not really an 'actor', and I haven't shot a scene for two years. It's not easy to find guys, which is why it's taking me so long to film this fourth volume in the series. Little by little, it's becoming bigger. I want to bring more guys into the genre – I feel like I'm bringing in a new generation.

Did you have any sneak peeks at *Mr Angel* before it was finished?

Dan did three edits before he let me see it. It's not my film, so I don't think I should have a say in what he's working on. If I'd asked him to take something out, he probably would have, but it's his story about me and that's what makes it awesome. As a film-maker, I'd hate it if one of my actors said, "No, dude, I don't like that angle", because it takes away from my vision.



"LOOKING
MACHO
WORKS FOR ME!"





Did you have a private family screening?

I'm not sure whether my parents should see it or not. There's footage about my sex stuff, and it does show my vagina once or twice. My parents know what I do and who I am, and I'm blessed to have such amazing support. Not a lot of alternative people have a mum and dad who are that cool. My dad is old school – if he sees himself crying in the film, I don't think he'd be comfortable with that.

Talking of family, have you ever considered having one of your own?

I had to have an emergency hysterectomy recently, which was horrible, but even before that I never wanted a child. I feel like a man, so I don't feel the need to be pregnant. That's not to say it isn't OK for other guys like me to have babies, but I've never had that desire. I like kids, but I don't have a fatherly urge to take care of my own. Also, I don't think it's appropriate to have kids considering my work. If you're going to have a family you need to be devoted to them, but I travel a lot.

Speaking of travelling, is there anywhere you particularly want to go – or avoid?

Last year I visited Oslo in Norway, which was fucking awesome. I love most places because, everywhere I go, people treat me well. I go to Los Angeles a lot for work, but it's not my favourite city. It's hectic and people tend to have an attitude. I prefer New York because it's more like Europe. When I went to speak at Yale University in Connecticut, I had a 24-hour guard with me because someone threatened to kill me if I spoke at the school. I couldn't believe it and neither could the people who invited me to speak.

That's insane! Were you frightened?

I wasn't, but people told me I should have been. Yale is relatively conservative despite its community of queer and transpeople. Through my work, I push peoples' perceptions and boundaries of what it means to be a man or a woman. It has nothing to do with genitals. The world boxes us in, but I push that by proclaiming I'm a man whether you like it or not. Many biological men disapprove because they're so focused on their penis!

Through social media, you invite anyone struggling with their identity to contact you for help and advice. Are there any particular sites or organisations you'd recommend for support or information?

Trans is like the new gay in a way, so there is so much advice available. I think that might be why the community can be so volatile. There's a lot of controversy with words; people believe there are certain phrases you can say and some you can't. I believe you should empower words for yourself. There's a lot more information out there compared to when I began my work ten years ago. People used to freak out about me, but now they're fascinated. I've started blocking nasty people online that I don't want within my circle. It's a free world, so people can say what they want, but I won't let them say it to my face unless they're prepared for what I'm going to say back to them.

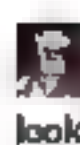
Visit Buckangel.com to find out more, and check out Mrangelthemovie.com for more about the documentary →

FEELING LIKE A MAN
OR WOMAN HAS
NOTHING TO
DO WITH
GENITALS"

WorldMagazine

BUCK IN THE HOT SEAT!

We asked *Bizarre* readers to send us their questions for Buck. Keep an eye on future interview opportunities at [Facebook.com/bizarremagazine](https://www.facebook.com/bizarremagazine)

 Congratulations on a bloody successful transition. That's impressive given that looking at Buck makes me feel feminine..

Kyle Shaman Phillips via Facebook

"Thanks, Kyle! All my life I wanted to be hyper-masculine. Looking macho works for me. It's cool when people compliment me because it makes me remember that I've achieved what I wanted to after living in another body that didn't fit how I felt. I can't speak for all transmen, but I know many who also wanted to achieve masculine traits such as facial hair and muscles. Comments like this give transpeople affirmation that we achieved our goals."

 I cannot believe Buck could receive nasty comments – obviously a person becoming their true self is just too 'bizarre' for some. I think Buck is well sexy!

Claire Burgess via Facebook

"Well, thank you, Claire! When people say nasty things, it's about them. It's the same thing with gay bashing – if someone shouts abuse at a gay couple on the street, it's because they have feelings they haven't dealt with. Being who I am does something to people and they freak out. It's empowering to be able to push people's buttons by just being me. Not everyone can do that! Once I realised I shouldn't take stuff personally, I felt free."

 The Pussycat Dolls – in what order...?

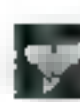
Brian Winton via Facebook

"How about I take them all at once? A free-for-all!"

 I have to use testosterone gel which can really affect my mood. I may start exercising more – that seems to help..

Jay via Twitter

"If you're feeling depressed, even walking will help. It's all about exercise. Sometimes when I'm on the road and can't get to a gym, I feel a difference in myself. Even jumping around for 10 minutes can change your mood. The gel is less powerful than injections – talk to your doctor about how you're feeling."

 What are Buck's favourite names for his vagina?

Jessica Mitche via Twitter

"I'm into 'vagina', but some people don't like that because they think it's an ugly word. I also call it my 'pussy'. I think pussy is sexual and vagina is empowering. I don't call it my cock unless I'm having sex and I tell my partner to suck it. A lot of guys call it 'cunt' – I don't know if I like that. I don't have a name for it, like George.. that's just weird."

 Religious folk might say Buck's trying to correct God's work. Does he believe in God?

Tom Penn via Twitter



"I don't believe in *that* God – I think you might be talking about a Christian God. I believe in energy and karma. Fate's a hard one because it's predetermined and I don't believe in that. You have options and an evolution of your path. I believe things come around and enter your life at certain times, but I don't know whether that's fate or energy. Just don't fuck people over because it will come back to you!"

 How does it feel to know your way around the kitchen *and* be able to undo tight lids on sauces?

Lee Bridger via Facebook

"Oh, I get it – Lee's trying to be sexist. Well, the kitchen has nothing to do with embracing my sexuality. Some of the best chefs in the world are men! Back home, I eat a lot of vegetables and 15 eggs a day. I used to have my own chickens! I'm thinking about opening up my own farm."

 Has your new found masculinity made your skills behind the wheel of a car any better?

Nathan Twinge via Facebook

"Actually, living in Mex co has made my driving skills amazing! They drive like crazy there. My new found masculinity has made me a more sensitive man. I've embraced my emotions and can cry without feeling feminine. For many years, I shut off those feelings because I equated them to feeling like a woman. Sometimes, when I speak in front of students and reflect on certain parts of my life involving drugs or homelessness, it'll bring up emotions and I'll cry during my talk. After I speak, people come up to me because they're touched by it. I've learned it's not a female or male thing – it's personal. I think Nathan needs to understand that it's not so much about driving a car, it's about learning how to become vulnerable as a man. 

BLOOD! GORE! SEX! SHOCK!

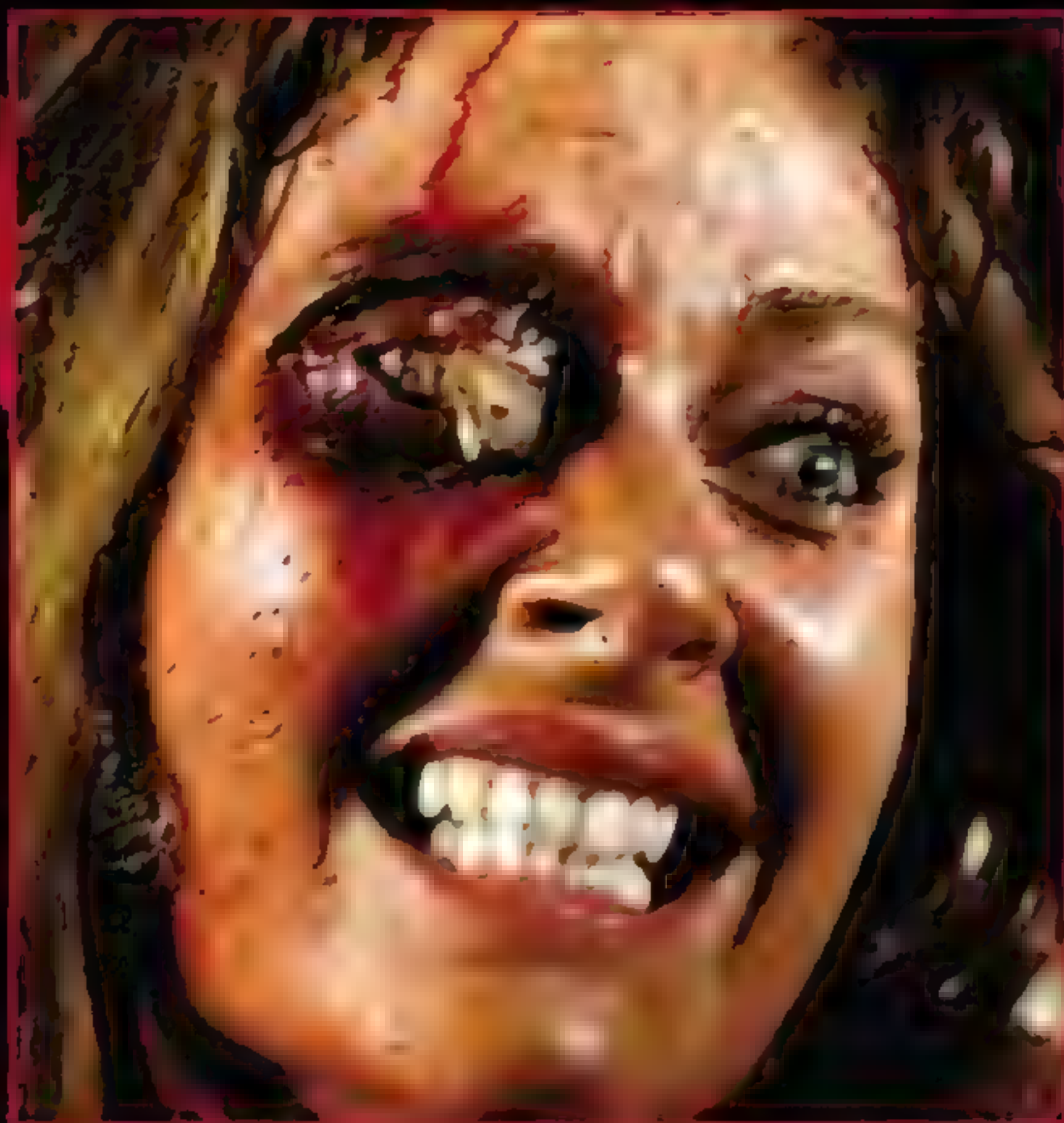
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ALT-FEST

15th-17th of AUGUST 2014

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FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

MAIN STAGE

NEPHILIM
KILLING JOKE
DOPE STARS INC. - GOTHMINSTER
PROTAFIELD - METHEDREAM - MORE TBA

MARILYN MANSON

GARY NUMAN
AMBIT
TRUCKFIGHTERS - BLACK FUTURES
STEAK - JMWIK - MORE TBA

THE CULT

ARCH ENEMY
COMBICHRIST
EISBRECHER - PETER HOOK & THE LIGHT
BLUTENGEL - NEW DEVICE - FUCKSHOVEL

INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICA STAGE

mesh
FADERHEAD
ABONIZE - ROTERSAND - ZEROMANCER
WILLIAM CONTROL - UGENYTE - V2A
PARADE GROUND - K-BEREIT - NULL WHITE

SUICIDE COMMANDO
nocturne
AESTHETIC PERFECTION
SOMAN - SAM - XPS - EISENFUNK
DEVANT UK - ANGELSPIT - TENEX
SYSTEM-FX - K-NITRATE

COVENANT
LEATHER STRIP
[:SITD:]
ALIEN VAMPIRES - UNTER NUL
KRISTAL SYSTEM - INERTIA
GLOBAL CITIZEN - ALTERED
PRETTY ADDICTED - DIGICORE - MORE TBA

METAL STAGE

PARADISE LOST
Proclamation of the Reborn
MONO INC. - DEAD HARTS
SKARLETT NOT - CONCRETE LUNG
SANCTUUM - MORE TBA

SATIRICON
SAME MESSIAH
KROKODIL
THE ONE HUNDRED - MORE TBA

THE HOWLING
BREED 77 - MALEFICE - PALM READER
LOVELORN DOLLS - PRIMITAI - MORE TBA

GOTH STAGE

PETER MURPHY
the beauty of Gemma
MARIONETTES
Pretentious, Me? - MORE TBA

ALIEN SEX FIEND
CLAN OF XYMOX
SKELTAL FAMILY
The Eden House - The Last Cry
13 Candles - MORE TBA

HEADLINER TO BE ANNOUNCED
THE MARCH VIOLETS
Attrition - NFD
Cold in Berlin - Christine Plays Viol
Zeitgeist Zero - MORE TBA

STAGE

SENER - FEARLESS VAMPIRE KILLERS - OODSIZED - STEREO JUDGERNAUT
NOVEMBER 7 - BEHOLDER - SCREAMER - SPIRITUS - DIE SO FLUID
BAD POLLYANNA - JERUS LIVES AMERICA - THE SELF TITLED - ENEMY-3
GENERATION DRAVEYARD - SEVEN DEADLY - 8 - SPAWN OF PSYCHUS
COLLAPSE - BALL RIT STAMPED - SYL LIKE THIS - SOLDIERFIELD
VIVID NATION - PARESIS - KREMATED - WITCHED SOUL - SPRINGRIDER
BLACK ACID SEALS - THE CLAREHEADS - PETROL BASTARD - BLACKEN THE NAME
MAXIMIZ - SINNEMO - CRASHMATE - 44 FIRES - MORE TBA

DJ'S CLUBS

DJ BB - DJ ANGEL - DJ CYBERCHRIST - DJ VOID
DJ HIVE - DJ JOE THE WATER - DJ KOHL - FLAME
DJ MARTIN GLOOTH - DJ SINBAD - DJ STEVE NINE
DJ VADE RETRO - MORE TBA

EXPERIENCE

BB BLACKDUG - BIRTHRITE - CRIMSON CLOCKS - GLADSTONE - METROPOLIS
PROFESSOR ELEMENTAL - SEAS OF FORTH - SNOWOUT - DANIEL WALHEIM
MONTAGUE JACQUES FROMAGE II AND THE STEAMPUNKFUNK BIZARRE
THE SHANKLIN FREAK SHOW - WHISKEY BOB SHANER - AERONAUTICA
FRENCHY AND THE PUNK - JEZEBEL STEELE - THE DARK DESIGN
MISS VON TRAPP - OH LAWRENCE - THE HYSTERIOUS FREAKSHOW

CIRCUS BIGTOP

THE CIRCUS OF HORRORS
DEE CHRISTOPHER
THE ABOMINABLE STILT WALKERS
- LOTS MORE ACTS TO BE ANNOUNCED

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CLUB ANTICHRIST

Fetish / Goth night Club Antichrist, which is famous for its warped performers, will be staging its decadent club at Alt-Fest. Depravity a-go-go...

SOUNDS FROM

THE DARK SIDE

As the ground-breaking Alt-Fest festival prepares to make its debut on 15 - 17 August, *Bizarre* chats exclusively to some of the acts bidding to make it a freaky summer of darkness and blissful misery. Love will fucking tear us apart.

Us Brits know how to whinge. Yet even by our pernicky high standards, most of us would admit that summer 2013 was bright and warm. But injecting a little BLACKNESS into this year's season of sun will be some of the darkest pioneers in the worlds of Goth, gloom, industrial,

horror and metal, as some of our most beloved artists descend on Boughton Estate, Northamptonshire, for the first ever Alt-Fest. Featuring steampunk micro-festivals, the penis-unsheathing Circus Of Horrors, decadent burlesque and theatre, depraved club nights, and demented musical warriors such as Marilyn Manson, Killing Joke, Cradle Of Filth, Gary

Numan and Finstroll, this ground-breaking, crowdfunded festival was put together by the folk behind London's Goth / fetish night Club Antichrist. It promises to make for one truly fucked up, blackly romantic summer. Check out our exclusive interviews with some of the acts taking part. See you there, yeah?

Visit Alt-Fest.com for more details, line-ups and tickets →

WorldMags.net

COMBICHRIST

The unicorn-bating, aggrotech superstars play Alt-Fest's Main Stage. They've also just recorded a new album called *We Love You*. It's not very romantic, though.

Q&A - ANDY LAPLEGUA - LEAD VOCALS / GUITAR

Is it fair to say that *We Love You* isn't your typical love album...

Yes, that ends when the first track says "Now die!"

It's been 10 years since we did *Everybody Hates You*, so we thought it's about time to put out *We Love You* but while constantly reminding the listener that everyone else hates them. **There's a track called 'Fuck Unicorns'. Isn't that harsh on the cute, magical buggers?**

We've been fucking around with unicorns for a while. We're a dark band, and everyone takes it seriously. But because we're light-hearted, we started bringing big-assed unicorns onto the stage and got fans to bring them too. But it's been going on for too fucking long now. Our tour bus

"THE COMBICHRIST TOUR BUS IS FULL OF FUCKING STUFFED UNICORNS"



has become so filled with stuffed unicorns that there's no place to sit, just trash bags of unicorns fucking everywhere. So that track is a statement: "Please don't bring any more fucking unicorns to our shows!" Especially now, unicorns have become hipster bullshit.

We've danced to your music at 4am in Goth clubs. Does your hybrid of metal, electronica and industrial create a strange mix of dancers and headbangers at shows?

Yeah, we've had fights break out between the people in the mosh pit and the people with the fake hair and glowsticks who want to dance. I always say: if you want to dance at our live shows, go to the back. Ours is a high energy show and the bigger the mosh pit at the front, the better. It's not a club dance party when we play live. But I'd be shocked to see a mosh pit at an EBM club such as London's Slimelight! We're from metal and punk backgrounds, and the electronic side comes from us doing lots of drugs in the 1990s.

You did a videogame soundtrack for DmC: Devil May Cry last year. That was proper heavy shit...

I think our fans expected it to be more electronic, but when I saw all these creatures and swords in the game all I could think of was metal. You can't see a sword and not think of metal. That was true even before Manowar.

MARILYN MANSON

Marilyn Manson's headline slot at Alt-Fest will be the artist's only festival appearance in 2014, so be sure to grab a ticket before they sell out!



BB BLACKDOG

Sharply-attired steampunk freak show with a giant drummer and a band leader who occasionally wears giant nappies, BB Blackdog play the Steampunk Stage on Friday.

Q&A: BOBE WHITES - VOCALS / BASS

Who are BB Blackdog?

We're a diverse team of freaks who put on a little piece of alt-theatre for each of our songs. Amongst our ranks are a group of dancers, a 6ft 9in German drummer called Axel Boldt, and three bassists. That trio includes myself, who also curates the Steampunk Experience (a 'micro-festival' at Alt-Fest), the pirate Sven Breuel, and Molly May Hooper. Molly was recently renamed 'Monkey Face Molly' after she screamed: "Get me a drink, monkey face!" to a large biker at a festival, and then bravely bit his ear. The biker retaliated by biting her nose.

Why is your nickname 'Jager Schmitz'?

I got food poisoning from the German dish while on tour, and ended up wearing giant nappies on stage for three days, just so our show could go on.

What's your ultimate steampunk invention?

I'd love a robot monkey butler to serve me drinks on stage. But some of the contraptions that people will be bringing to the Steampunk Experience are fantastic. We'll have steam-powered personal wings, steampunk computers, jet packs, time machines, televisions, clockwork items of all kinds, and working steam-powered rats and dragons.

Besides Victorian clothing, does being in a steampunk band require an elaborate stage set-up?

Not really. The audience gets involved, and we invite people on stage to do everything from being gimped to wearing chicken hats. And it's a tradition to have a giant conga during the encore. We've had dancers pass out on hot days because of their heavy clothes!

—chuckie m. and k. k. and bobakking out



CIRCUS OF HORRORS

The freak show troupe will be doing their gross-out thing all weekend in the Circus Big Top. Expect child-friendly shenanigans during daylight hours, and for wee Captain Dan to whip out his penis after dark.

Q&A: DR HAZE - DEMENTED RINGMASTER

Who's the coolest person you've ever hung out with at a festival, besides Bizarre?

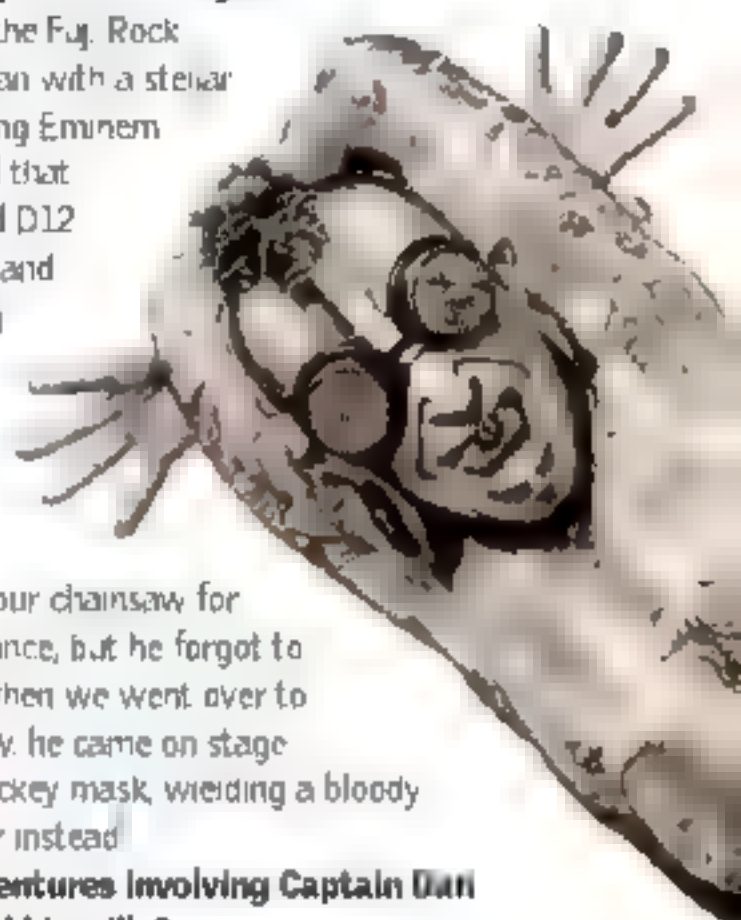
Alice Cooper. We performed on the same bill with Alice in Germany, and then got to hang out with him when I saw him perform at Guilfest.

Tell us a crazy festival story...

We played at the Fuji Rock Festival in Japan with a stellar line-up, including Eminem. We discovered that Eminem's band D12 were big fans, and were watching us perform every night. Eventually Eminem asked if he could borrow our chainsaw for his stage entrance, but he forgot to collect it. So when we went over to watch his show, he came on stage in his scary hockey mask, wielding a bloody hedge trimmer instead.

Any new adventures involving Captain Dan the dwarf and his willy?

Danny does this thing now where he holds up ten-pin bowling balls with his dick, which can involve using a volunteer from the audience. However, during one show he picked a girl who was a bit too hot. Dan got an erection while holding two bowling balls with his penis. The next day his dick looked like an aubergine. It was badly swollen and bright purple!



KILLING JOKE

One of the most unique and adventurous bands in history. Killing Joke play the Main Stage.

Q&A: MARTIN 'YOUTH' GLOVER - BASS

Killing Joke has an amazing back-story, from recording inside an Egyptian pyramid to fleeing to Iceland to survive the Apocalypse. But nobody has written a biography of the band. How come?

It's because we're difficult bastards - we can't agree on anything. A year or two ago the author John Higgs wanted to interview us and turn it into a book, but our singer Jaz Coleman was like: "Fuck off. I'm going to write my own book." Jaz's book, *Letters From Cythera*, has just come out, but it's more of an autobiography than the story of the band.

One thing people have had trouble with over the years is categorising Killing Joke's sound...

We're releasing a triple album of dub remixes, and I've described it as "the best downbeat, electronic, slow Goth, dance, post-punk, dub..." the list keeps going. When we started it was difficult getting away with that. This was before the demise of cults and tribes, when people were loyal to genres and bands. I remember recording *War Dance*, and we put a disco beat on it to piss off all the punks and metal-

heads. Of course, they loved it. Today the world is a more cosmopolitan and accepting place, so we were 30 years ahead with what we were doing.

When you reformed in 2002, it was cited that one of your motivations was America's invasion of Iraq. Is it fair to say that you have often confronted the plight of mankind in your lyrics?

Yeah, we have a reputation for that. In the 1980s we were dismissed as dirge and doom-makers, but we never saw ourselves like that. Sure *War Dance* and *Psyche* were about the industrialised suicide tribe that humanity has become, where we're killing ourselves through greed and not looking after the planet. We reference that in our music because that's the world we live in. There's honesty to our lyrics. But at the same time a lot of what we do is a celebration of being alive and experiencing family, friends, love and loss. Killing Joke is quite a romantic band. I think.

What can you tell us about the Killing Joke

documentary *The Death And Resurrection Show*?

That was made by film-maker Shaun Pettigrew, who's friends with Jaz. He followed us around for 15 years, but it's more about Jaz's life. Pettigrew shot some great footage, but he's focused on Jaz's occult obsessions, which aren't really shared by the band. In fact, I felt the film recreated the stereotype that we had spent 20 years trying to get away from. And I told him that, but I wish him luck with it. →

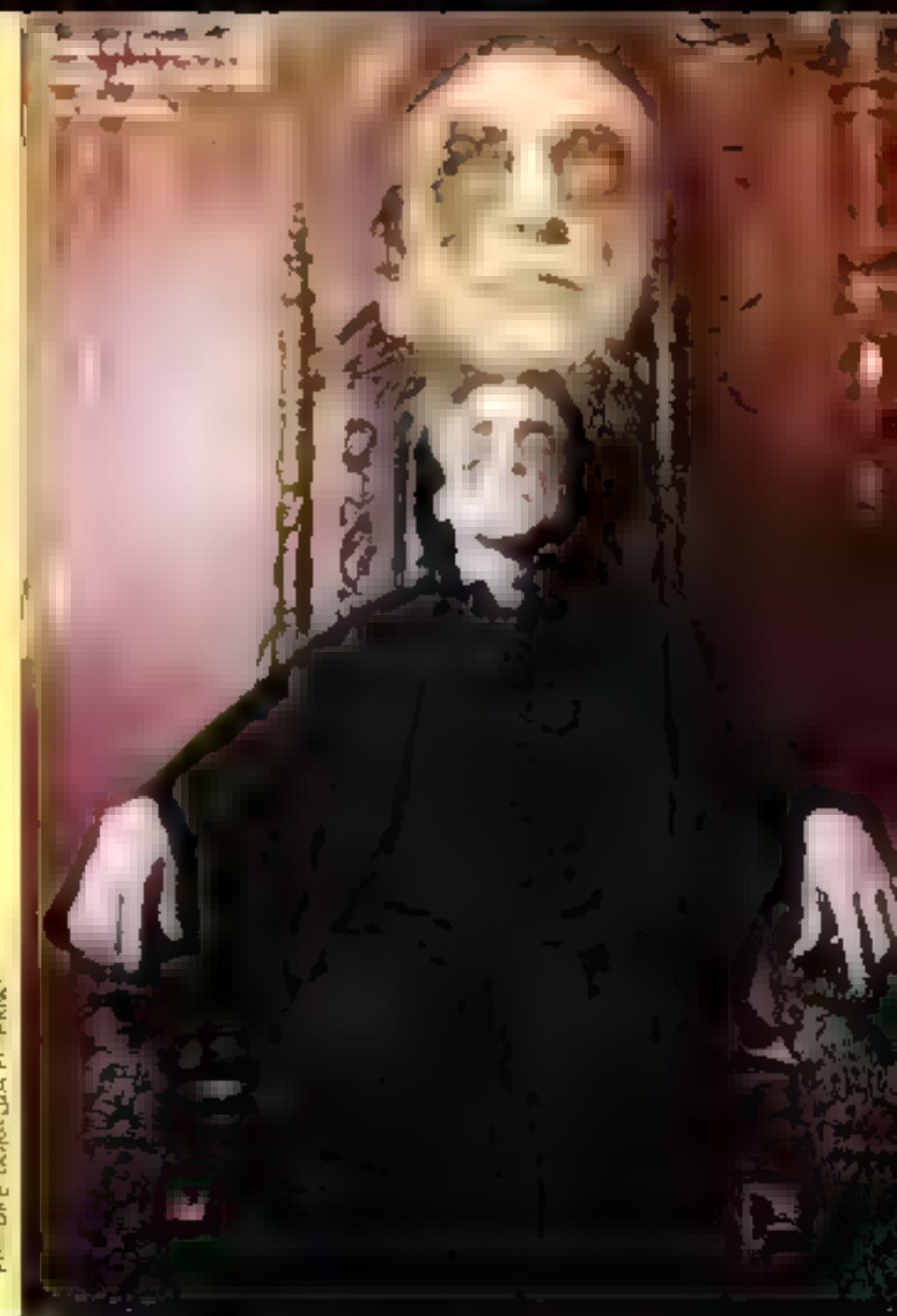
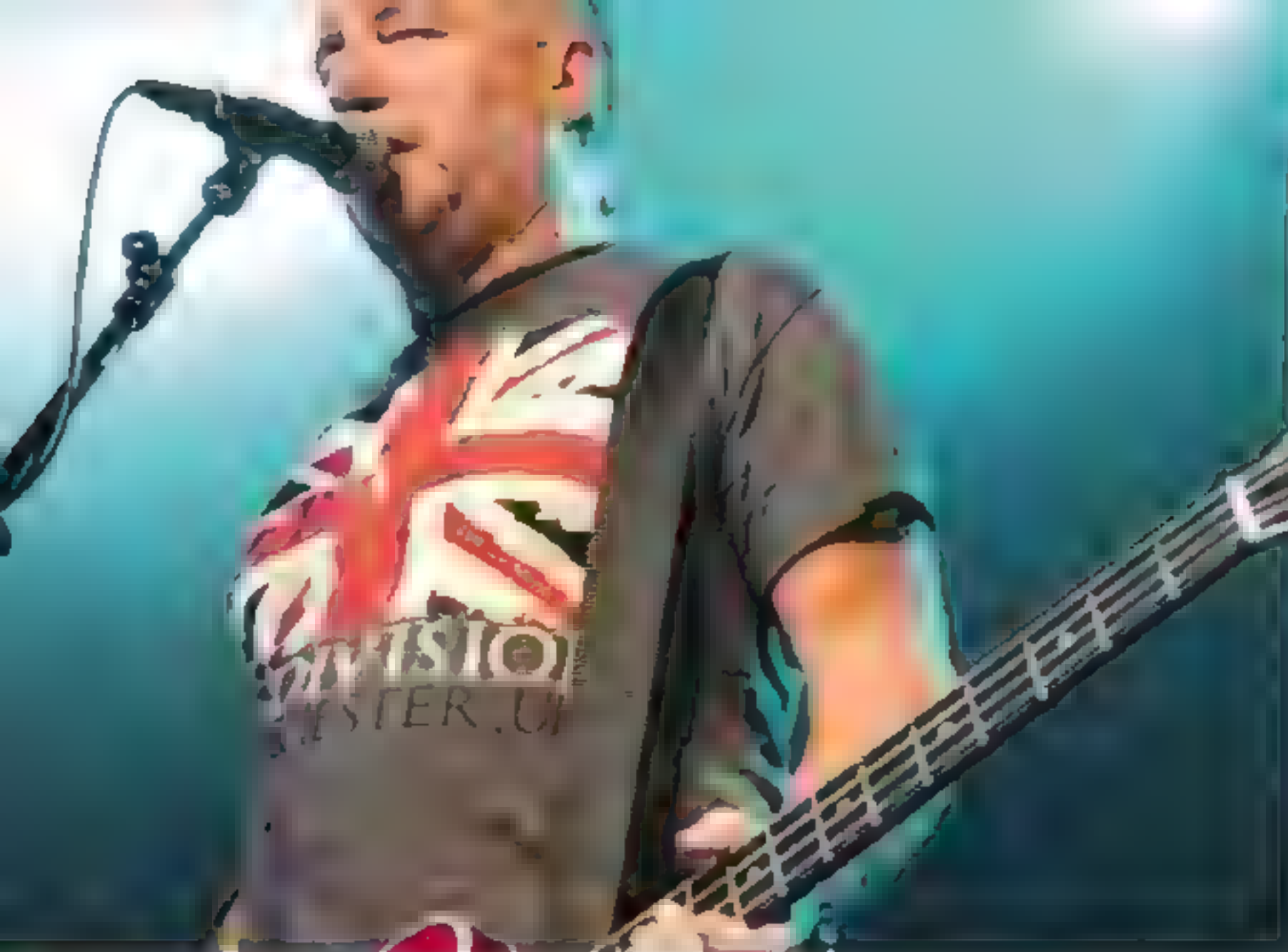


PHOTO: JEFFREY M. HARRIS



SUICIDE COMMANDO

Suicide Commando is a serial killer-obsessed electro act from Belgium. They released *When Evil Speaks* last year and headline the Industrial Stage on Saturday.

Q&A: JOHAN VAN ROY

'Cut, Bleed, Eviscerate' from *When Evil Speaks* samples Carl Panzram, a hate-fuelled American serial killer from the early 20th century who claims to have buggered more than 1,000 boys and murdered 22 others. What was his appeal?

I was searching for serial killer cases to write about, and stumbled upon the Carl Panzram case by chance. I thought his words fitted the meaning and atmosphere of that song perfectly.

Are you always reading serial killer books?

Yes, but I think we're all fascinated by the unknown, dark side of the human psyche. If there's a car accident on the highway, don't we all want a glimpse? Our fascination for serial killers is the same. Every country has them. They can strike in your own town or in your own street, and that makes the subject scary and fascinating. For me, my interest was sparked by reading about one case. Then I read books and watched movies about Ted Bundy, Dennis Radar, and Albert Fish. But the story that had the biggest impact on me was Ed Gein, which was disturbing because of the guy's lifestyle and the manner in which he killed his victims.

Given your dark subject matter, is there a paradox playing in blazing sunshine at festivals?

It's Britain, so it will probably rain. Sunshine doesn't bother me, I'm not a quintessential Goth. I don't dress or look extreme and I like the summer. I never really cared about the image. It's the music that counts.

Suicide Commando will be celebrating its 30-year anniversary in 2016. Excited?

It doesn't feel like it's been that long, and it proves I'm becoming an old maggot. But it's exciting, as not many bands exist for such a long time. I'm proud of what I have achieved. We'll do something special to celebrate.

PETER HOOK AND THE LIGHT

Undeterred by an ongoing legal rumour with his former band, New Order, Joy Division legend Peter Hook will be unfurling gloomy classics on the Main Stage on Sunday with his supergroup, The Light.

Q&A: PETER HOOK - VOCALS & BASS

Will you be performing Joy Division albums in their entirety at Alt-Fest?

The idea is to let the fans pick the set list, which could be interesting, especially as we've started playing New Order songs too.

We're massive Joy Division fans, but we still don't know whether we prefer debut *Unknown Pleasures* or *Closer*.

I prefer *Closer*. Producer Martin Hannett was more experienced with the production by then. *Unknown Pleasures* is completely different to *Closer* – the lyrics are positive, but the music is angry and more aggressive. *Closer* turns into

aggression. Bernard and I wanted to sound like the Sex Pistols or The Clash. If we produced the records, we'd have turned up our guitars and sped everything up. The music would just cut your head off, but there would be no atmosphere. Thank God we didn't get our way, because we'd have ruined everything. We were 21-year-old idiots. Ironically, it was one of the few times where Bernard and I agreed on something, and we were both absolutely wrong! It's typical of young boys with premature ejaculation, isn't it?

What's your personal greatest festival story?

The most interesting ones are the wet ones, because they're so miserable and bloody dangerous. Playing Glastonbury in 2000 as Monaco was the worst one for mud. When we arrived we were driving through thousands of people covered in shite. It was like a zombie movie. One of my friends got an infection through swallowing cow shit while we were all jumping around in the mud, off our heads. It took her six months to recover. She lost 3st... as you can imagine, she was delighted!

Speaking of zombies, I hear that you're addicted to *Resident Evil* movies.

"MY ALL-CONSUMING PASSION IS BAD RESIDENT EVIL MOVIES!"

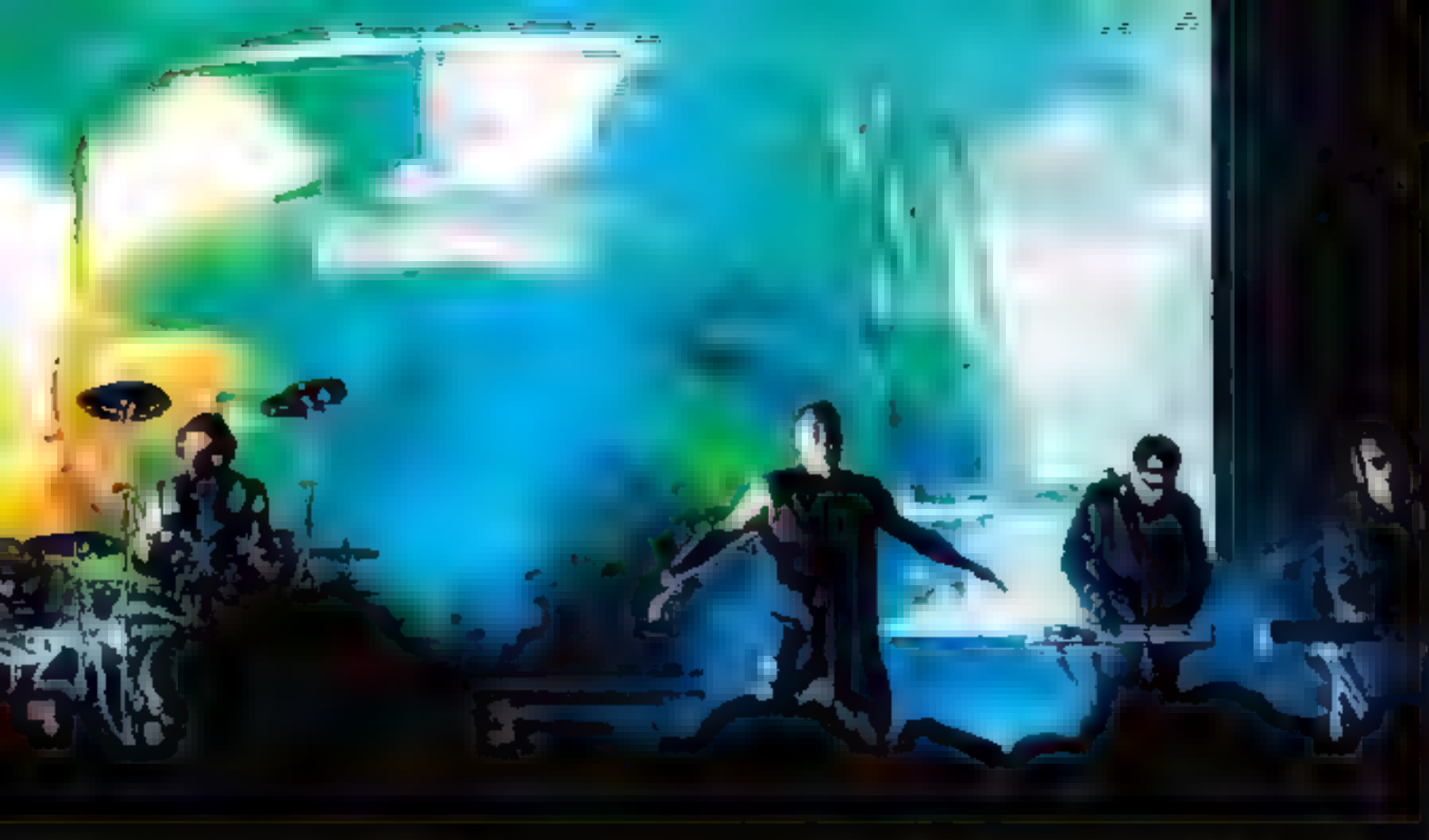
something quite melancholic and beautiful. Those two albums are at odds with each other. It's interesting when we play the albums live chronologically. It starts off very cocky and gung-ho. Then, with *Closer*, the music becomes introverted, introspective and melancholic. Sometimes it doesn't half put a downer on a gig! Playing albums in their entirety demands more of the audience. Most bands have settled into an easy rut of just doing greatest hits, where everybody gets pissed and has a nap. Joy Division famously pioneered a dark, Gothic sound. But is it true you weren't initially happy with Hannett's gloomy production? We were young punks at the time the albums were recorded, and we played live with much more

I got into them recently while based in South America, and it's become an all-consuming passion. Some of them are so bad that they aren't even funny. Some are fantastic. Another great recent zombie movie was *Zombieland*.

Will Peter Hook And The Light ever write new material?

We talk about it all the time. I hadn't played Joy Division songs for so long that they feel like fresh material. Some Joy Division songs had never been played live before, but I feel guilty for not writing new tracks because Factory Records chief Tony Wilson and band manager Rob Gretton always said your best track is the next one you're going to write. The guys in this band are great musicians, so it seems like a waste. It's high on my list, shall we say.





FRONT 242

Having invented EBM and soundtracked squillions of sweaty Goth raves, these Belgian electro warriors fittingly headline the Industrial Stage on Friday

Q&A: RICHARD JONCKHEERE - ELECTRONIC PERCUSSION/VOCALS

Did you really EBM?

We created the definition in 1984 with our *No Comment* album. There was no genre describing our

work, and we felt electronic music lacked 'body or sweating elements'. The term Electronic Body Music was natural for us, and it became a label that journalists and the public used to categorise electronic acts that couldn't be labelled.

Do you think EBM has evolved?

I don't believe there were many real EBM bands back in 1984, and I feel the same today. Furthermore, I think a lot of musicians reuse the same formula without trying new approaches. Most of this music sounds identical, and that's a weird paradox, using machines that give you unlimited possibilities to

create something different, and still sounding the same. But there are electronic artists who further soundscape and production, such as Trentemøller. Despite using technology in music, we've read that you have a disdain for machines...

Disdain is exaggerated. We prefer to see machines as tools used to express an artistic point of view, in our case with sound and music. The problem is that people often see technology as the art! They're amazed by what programs can do, but they don't use them to create something strong or different. There's not been a new Front 242 album since 2003. Any plans for new material?

We tried recently, but we didn't produce anything we were satisfied with. The band is not against making something new. It just needs to be really good, and that's easier to say than do.

What's the weirdest thing that's ever happened to you at a festival?

We were on the US Lollapalooza festival in 1993 - we were the only non-guitar band, the only band from Europe, the only band with short hair, the only band with electronics and synths, and the only band not travelling in huge tour buses. We were considered the black sheep of the tour. But in the middle of that strange circus, we discovered that Alice In Chains singer Layne Staley was a huge fan of ours. He came on stage a few times to sing 'Religion'. RIP Layne.

FINNTROLL

There are plenty of acts we'd urge you to check out this summer, but Finntroll are the weirdest. The Finnish folk metallers sing about trolls, and singer Vreth is such a hit that one fan runs a blog dedicated specifically to his, er... ravishing armpits. The band plays the Metal Stage at Alt-Fest, and their most recent album, *Blodsvept*, was released last year.

Q&A: VRETH - VOCALS

Is it true the band formed after playing folk songs in a 'black metal' style while shit-faced?

Yes, but it's unclear whether we were suffering terrible hangovers or still shit-faced at the time. It's a thin line.

Are Finnish trolls ugly bastards who live under bridges, like they are in Britain?

Trolls are the same breed wherever they come from, but I would hope that the Finnish ones are a tiny, tiny bit prettier. As for living under bridges, I'm not sure any longer. Trolls have found their way into society. Just take a look around you and see what's going on in the world today.

Do you have lots of scary troll folk tales in Finland that are used to scare kids?

Yes, we do. I think all the Nordic countries have them.

As a kid I was fascinated / scared by stories about changelings. That's where the trolls secretly kidnap your baby and change them into one of their own. They're stories about the wild meeting the tame. I read that a Finntroll fan had started a blog entirely devoted to Vreth's armpits. What kind of thing does he/she say about them?

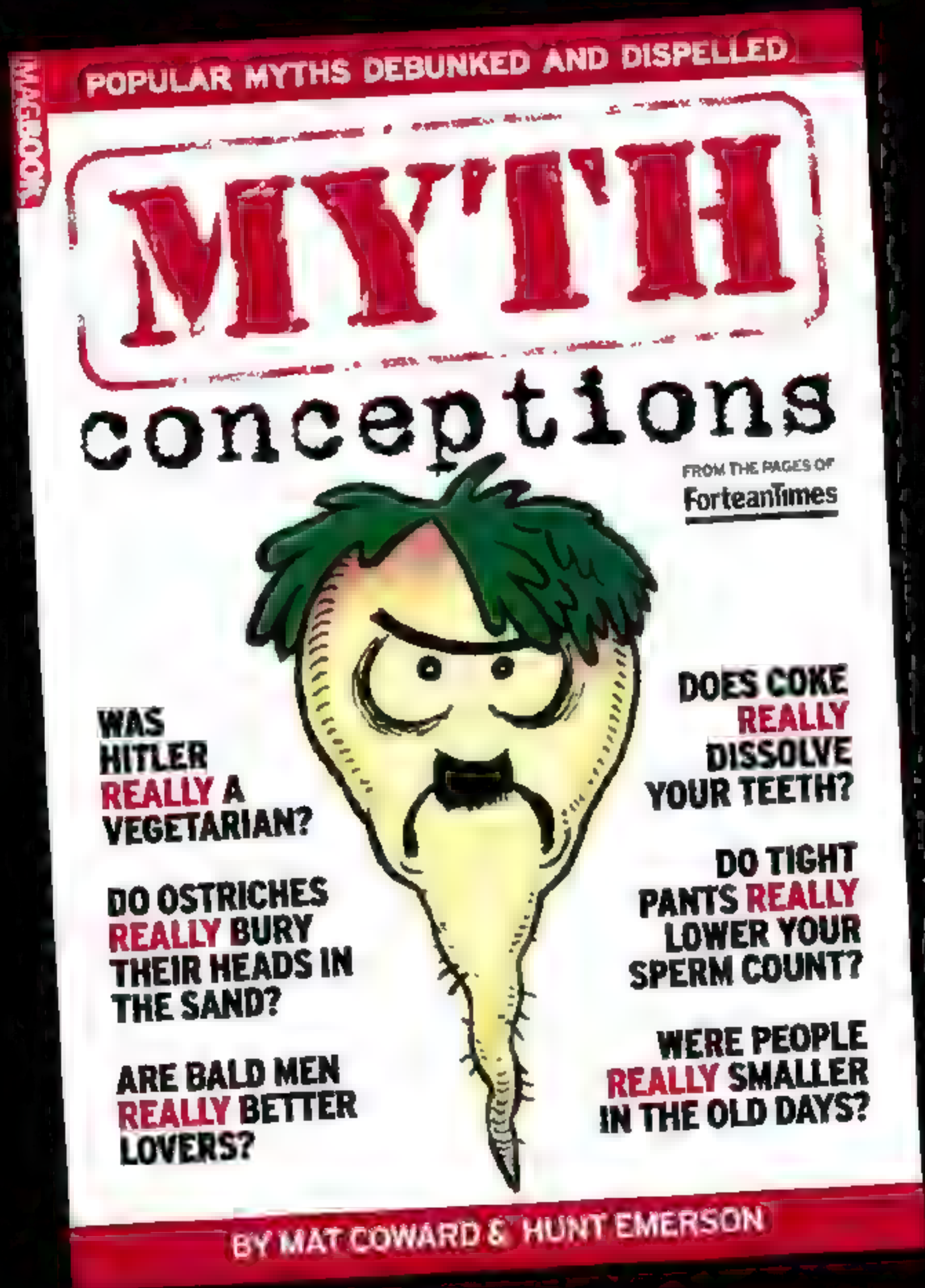
It's mostly pictures with armpits exposed. I guess one should take it as a positive thing. I'm not entirely sure, though.

Does Vreth have nice armpits?

As this interview is being answered by me, Vreth himself, I can only add to this discussion that they are hairy. ●



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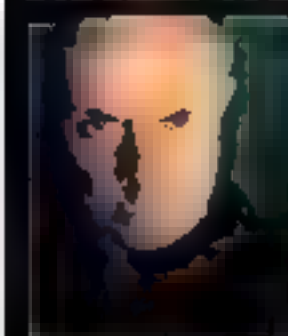
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Salvation Visual Assault #4

BLACKEST WHITE

White may traditionally be the colour of purity and innocence – but as **Nigel Wingrove** discovers, there's a darker side to even the palest hue... →

YOUR HOST NIGEL WINGROVE



Each month in *Bizarre*, Nigel Wingrove – founder of the horror film company Redemption Films and the Salvation Group,

and creator of the online alternative female collective, *Satanic Slut* – will be assaulting you with a series of subversive, fashion-themed, eye-popping photos to bring to life a facet of alternative culture or to make the ordinary extraordinary! All are guaranteed to push your sick and twisted buttons.

This month Nigel is using the colour white as a springboard for his subversive take on the world of fashion. Find out more about Nigel and his work at salvationfilms.com and nigelwingrove.com.

STYLING: JANE AND JANE
HAIR: SILVER SKULL
MAKEUP: BEACON
DRESS: WHITEHEAD
JEWELLERY: LUCY
PROP: JANE AND JANE

STYLING: JANE AND JANE
HAIR: SILVER SKULL
MAKEUP: BEACON
DRESS: WHITEHEAD
JEWELLERY: LUCY
PROP: JANE AND JANE



White: the colour of nothing and everything, of life and death, of good and evil. It denotes cleanliness and purity, godliness and virtue, virginity and innocence. Equally, it's the colour of snow, ghosts, the sacrificial lamb and fear. It's also a colour associated with vampires and the Ku Klux Klan. Literature and art have used the colour white both as a source of goodness – as in religion, medicine, honesty, white magic – or as the embodiment of evil, such as the witches in *Snow White* or the Narnia chronicles, and in the deathly paleness of Dracula and other pallid creatures of the night. And while white is, for many, synonymous with cleanliness and wholesomeness, there's a fine line where pale became pallor; and with pallor comes associations with dissolute habits or a life lived at night, devoid of sunlight. From here, it's a short step in our imaginations to Byronic vampires or the hazy denizens of graveyards and haunted houses.

For the mainstream, a love for night-time or a pallid complexion is against nature, which inspired the literary and artistic descendants of Byron to create a louche aesthetic which they used to showcase their pallid countenances to

the world. These decadents, such as the poet Ernest Dowson or artist Aubrey Beardsley, immersed themselves in angst and alcohol in equal measure, and simultaneously drank and worked themselves to death, leaving young, pale corpses for Oscar Wilde and other followers of the decadent or fin de siècle (end of century) movement to mourn and eulogise. Whiteness 1890s style was chic and deadly. Also attracted to white was the magician and occultist Aleister Crowley, who donned white hooded robes for his 'Lesser Banishing Ritual Of The Pentagram' ceremonies, one of the chief rituals of Western magic that Crowley describes in his book *Magick In Theory And Practice* (1930). White, contrary to its image as the goody two-shoes of colour, is often the preferred shade in magic and occult ceremonies, where white is just as powerful as black.

PALE AND INTERESTING

Whiteness, whether in a religious or magical context, has not always been the safest skin tone to have in Eastern Europe, where fears of the vampire and the undead are deeply entrenched in folklore. In the middle ages, people with pale skin, particularly albinos, were singled out and persecuted. Fair hair were also regarded with suspicion as their pallid beauty was said to represent death. This

was inverse femme fatalism, where a woman's pale beauty was believed to contrast with a evil darkness hidden under her skin.

Conversely, in the modern age, paleness – particularly in women – denotes class, social standing and beauty. Mainstream society now regards the porcelain perfection of women such as Keira Knightly, Nicole Kidman, Scarlett Johansson or Dita Von Teese as reflective of style and sophistication, while the fake tan and orange glow generated in tanning shops are seen as tacky. The Chemobyl glow emanating from the gates of TOWIE, *My Big Fat Gypsy Wedding* and dozens of other soaps, and Katie Price, once the taste and style for thousands of young women, increasingly resembles a surgical and visual assault. White, in terms of beauty, is the new

black. It's ensured that alabaster skin is now as stylish in the same way that bronzed skin was in the 1970s. This is a reversal of the years leading up

WHITE DRESS: ISABEL WONG
HEADPIECE: VINTAGE

**BOTH READ THE BIBLE
DAY AND NIGHT BUT
YOU READ BLACK
WHILE I READ WHITE**

WILLIAM BLAKE

When aristocrats shunned the sun and prized their white flesh as a way of emphasizing their distance from peasants, the majority of whom worked on the land and lived in poverty. As a result, the average peasant was tanned and grubby, particularly when compared to the pristine finery in which Marie Antoinette

Today, white has also established itself as the colour of choice in hospitals. Nobody would feel safe around

In modern mainstream society, white is the new clean. White teeth, white walls, white clothes. White is right, its non-colour conquering all other hues. White is pure, unpolluted and unadulterated, and any stain or blemish is revealed by its presence. White is the colour of perfection and purity personified. Germ and colour free, unstained and unforgiving, whiteness dazzles in its corruptionless void.

Otherworldliness is at its strongest when absorbed into religion and mysticism. People talk of seeing a white light as they pass from this world to the next, and for many Christians white is seen as representing Jesus Christ, and being symbolic of his innocence and sacrifice. White is also the colour of choice at Catholic services honouring the Virgin Mary, and denotes hierarchy within the Church as the lighter the robes the higher the rank. Ordinary priests wear black, bishops wear violet, cardinals wear red, and, outside of the Church, only the Pope, God's representative on earth, wears white.

But while white may be the chosen colour of God's disciples, followers of darker forces



MODELS REQUIRED!

Do you think you have what it takes to feature in a future Salvation Visual Assault? Then model agency Sugarbabes would love to hear from you. Introduce yourself by emailing sugarbabes@salvationmag.com, or find them on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook [@sugarbabes](#)



of scandals, criminal prosecutions and changing attitudes saw a dramatic decline in Klan membership, with numbers dropping considerably and the movement fading back into the shadows.

By the 1940s legislation was passed that banned the wearing of masks during public demonstrations, ensuring that the Klan's infamous conical hood would in a future become a comical prop more akin to a dunce's hat than a spectral symbol of menace.

White could not exist without black. And while we think of white as symbolising virtue and black embodying evil, the two colours are, like Yin and Yang, two sides of the same coin.

In the book of Genesis, where the Bible describes the act of creation, God separates light from the darkness and from that moment blackness has been the source and colour of evil.

However, it's worth noting that the most popular colours for children are now pink for girls and blue for boys, which suggests that the movement favouring conical hoods that thwarted in the minister at their chosen destinations dressed in pink. 🍷

a general revulsion at the levels of violence directed towards blacks and their white supporters – turned away from the Klan and its followers slowly drifted away.

That would have been the end of the colour white's black side had it not been for the film *The Birth of A Nation* (1915), directed by DW Griffith, which exploded into the American consciousness in a burst of antisemitic, anti-Catholic, anti-black, anti-immigrant hatred as if, in the alleged words of then US President Woodrow Wilson, it had been written with lightning. So great was the film's influence that its portrayal of the Ku Klux Klan wearing white robes and burning crosses was immediately taken up for real when the Klan was reformed with great excitement and fanfare by William J. Simmons the same year.

This revived Klan represented in many ways the colour white's blackest hour. By 1925 over 15 per cent of the US' eligible voting population became members of the Ku Klux Klan, a percentage that represented millions of Americans – a staggering figure. By the early 1930s, however, a series

WHITE DRESS: DAKLJA WHITE
LONG SLEEVES TOPSHOP WHITE
KIDNAP BELLY SANDALS JIMU

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DR DOOM!

Have you got the guts to watch the nerve-shredding
horror shocker, *Paranormal Xperience*? **p86**

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THE STRANGE COLOUR OF YOUR BODY'S TEARS

This modern masterpiece may be a head-fuck, but it will leave you feeling excited, enriched and energised

THIS SHARP HOMAGE TO 1970S Italian giallo films is a full-blown sensory overload that blitzes viewers with unrelenting, perky eroticism and violence, accompanied by a sumptuous soundtrack to die for. At first glance, the plot sounds simple: when a missing woman's husband attempts to find her, he's cast headlong into a living nightmare as his apartment block transforms into a playground of sex and sadism-charged intrigue. However, there's nothing straightforward about the way writers / directors Hélène Cattet and Bruno Forzani execute the action. Playing like a bad acid trip, one factor that makes the movie so compelling is how viewers are cast as voyeurs of the unfolding drama. But rather than simply allowing you to watch the torment on the big-

screen, the directors place you in the psyche of the key protagonist, becoming one with him as he gradually loses his grip on reality.

Such a weird approach and overt reliance on vivid dream states does mean that *Tears* will undoubtedly have little appeal to movie-goers who crave simple stories with a beginning, middle and conclusive ending. But if you're a lover of the experimental who places little importance on narrative, and doesn't care if there are moments when you have no idea what's going on, then you'll love it. After all, when did your worst nightmares ever make sense?

The Strange Colour Of Your Body's Tears is a visually dazzling, sonically emotive tale that needs to be seen and heard on the big screen to fully appreciate its magnificence.

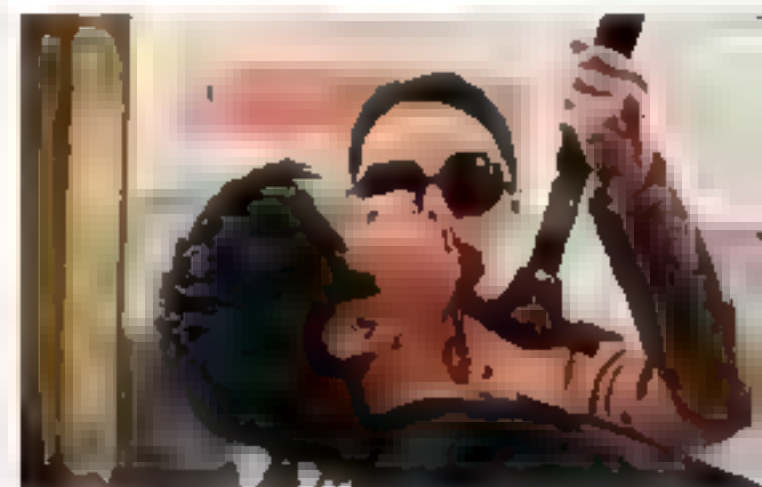
Billy Chanman

A VISUALLY
DAZZLING, SONICALLY
EMOTIVE TALE THAT
NEEDS TO BE SEEN
AND HEARD ON
THE BIG SCREEN

THE RAID 2

OUT NOW

If you're a fan of director Gareth Evans' first hyper-violent Indonesian thriller, this sequel will blow your mind. With a better plot and improved scripting, *The Raid 2* feels more accomplished than its predecessor, with blistering action and stunning set-pieces that are more elegant and imaginatively shot than before. A high-energy, bone-smashing action classic.



MAGIC MAGIC

OUT 18 APRIL

Although *Magic Magic* has been promoted as a horror film, it's more of a tense, psychological drama where an insomniac's journey across China becomes a nightmare. Unsettling rather than scary, director Sebastião Silva's chiller is more like a nervy Roman Polanski movie than a knee-jerk fright flick, with a finale that will leave you rattled and unnerved.



CHEAP THRILLS

OUT 2 MAY

When a family man loses his job, a rich couple offer to pay him to complete a series of outrageous dares sounds like an offer too good to refuse. But when their requests become violent, *Cheap Thrills* takes a downward spiral into darkness where only a pitch-black sense of humour will offer you relief from the hero's sick, gruesome challenges.



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FIVE MEDICAL STUDENTS

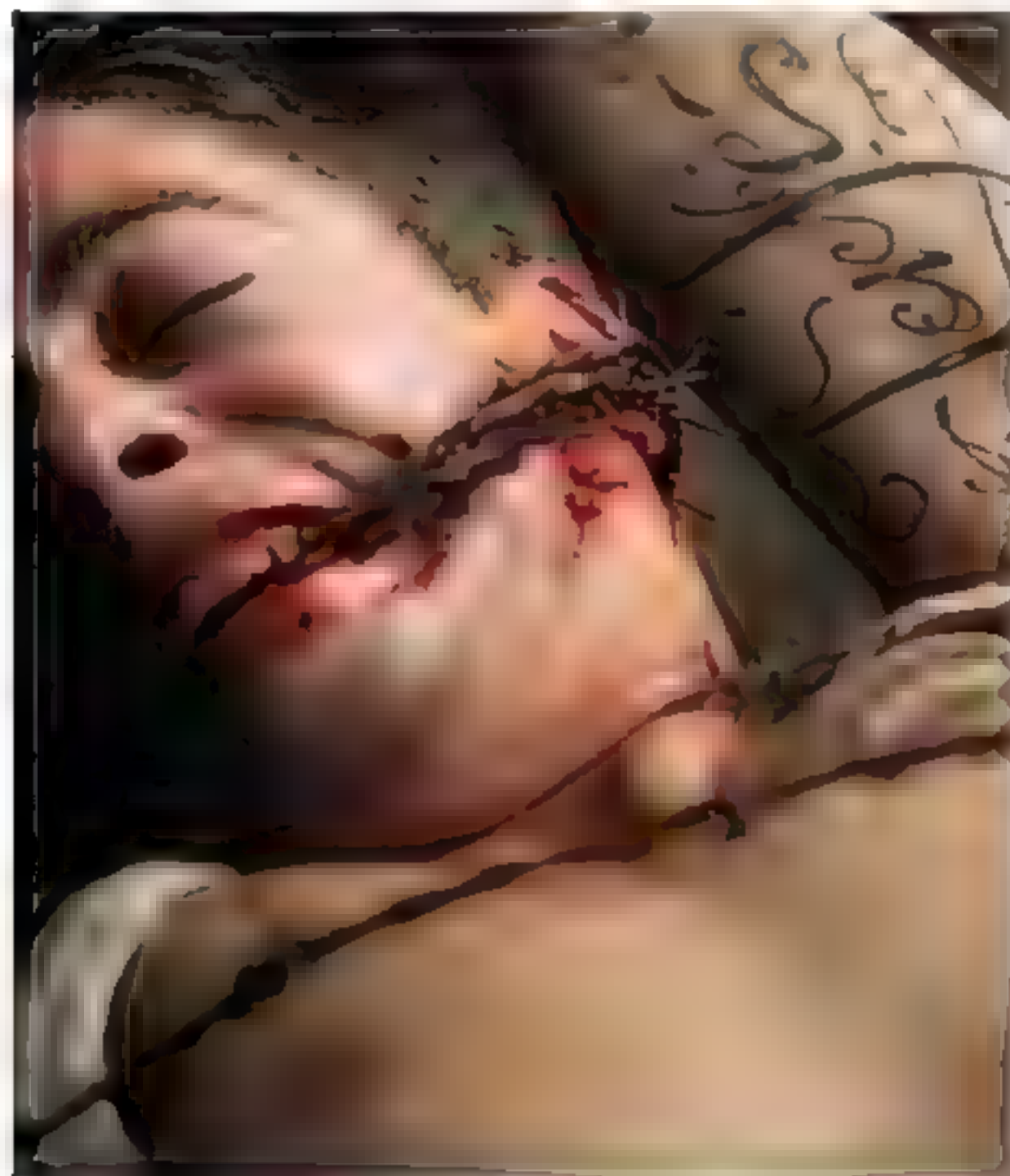
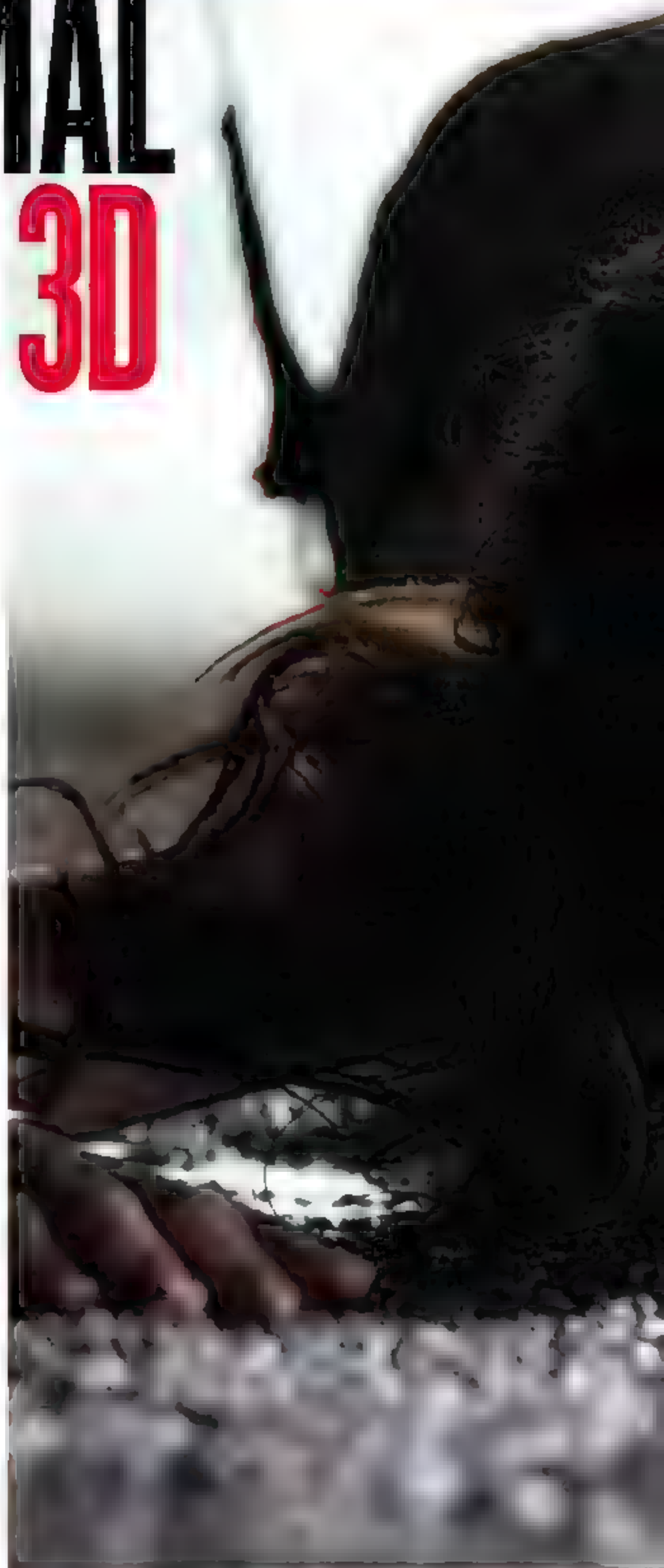
searching for paranormal activity stumble into a world of pain in this slow-burning Spanish slasher

At the behest of their twisted professor the students try to contact a dead serial killer known as Dr Martaga, who mercilessly tortured and slayed his victims in an old mine. Unfortunately, when a supernatural portal is opened that allows the psycho spook to invade the land of the living, he goes on the rampage and bumps off the students in the most hideous ways imaginable.

Although first-time feature director Sergi Vzcaino was dealt a formulaic screenplay he brings it to life by cloaking the action in claustrophobic

atmospheres, spiked with in-your-face thrills and chills. The tense feeling Vzcaino creates is also punctuated by excellent performances that prove far superior to the wooden lops that populate most murder movies, and where all most people care about is the villain and his methods of murder. And as Dr Martaga is a sinister, ugly bastard who bears a striking similarity to *A Nightmare On Elm Street*'s Freddy Kruger, the film is a success all round.

Don't expect to be so frightened that you feel compelled to sleep with the lights on, though, the emphasis here is on corpse-counting, not terror making a *Paranormal Xperience 3D* fun ride, albeit one of the dark, laugh-free variety. **BUY CHANCE**



CLAUSTROPHOBIC ATMOSPHERICS, SPIKED WITH IN-YOUR- FACE THRILLS AND CHILLS

QUERELLE

BUT NOW

The first film with strong homosexual themes to be a hit in its homeland, French drama *Querelle* focuses on a sailor who has a choice between sleeping with a brothel madam or her husband, and chooses the latter. At times incoherent and disjointed, *Querelle* is still a bold and uncompromising melodrama, and a radical experiment in narrative film-making.



MEMORY LANE

BUT NOW

Proving that no budget doesn't necessarily mean no style, *Memory Lane* is driven by an intriguing, beautifully-paced story where a war veteran routinely stops his own heart to travel between our world and the afterlife, where he tries to avenge his girlfriend's death. Like a David Lynch or Darren Aronofsky film made for peanuts, this is independent cinema to cherish.



AUTOLUMINESCENT

Roland S Howard was one of Australia's most unique and innovative songwriters, and this documentary blends archive footage and interviews featuring such luminaries as Nick Cave to chart Howard's life and career. A fine testament to Howard's musical magnificence it also exposes his romantic side and distressing drug addiction, only briefly touching on the cancer that killed him in 2009.



REAL HORROR SHOW!



THIS
MONTH
THE
INVOKING

BILLY CHAINSAW

All the latest news from *Bizarre's* free film club, CUT!

66 Just in case you've been napping next to Rip Van Winkle for the best part of four years, CUT! is the *Bizarre* film club I organise and host once a month in the creepy confines of London's Horse Hospital.

"As readers of this weird and wonderful mag, you know not to expect girly romcoms or documentaries about crop rotation in the Czech Republic from our screenings. In keeping with *Bizarre's* senses-searing content, we only screen the most terrifying, weird, violent or arty movies out there. Every film we screen is an exclusive preview of a yet-to-be released – either theatrically or on DVD / Blu-ray – feature. On top of a free screening, all visitors also get a free drink and entered into a prize draw to win a clutch of DVDs, simply for filling in a reaction sheet after the show.

"At our most recent gathering we screened an engrossing slice of psychological horror called

The Invoking. The plot follows a familiar path when a young woman named Sam (Trin Miller) inherits her recently deceased aunt's house in the middle of rural nowhere-ville, she invites some mates to check out her new pad. In no time flat she's plagued by horrifically brutal and disturbing visions that turn her life into a waking nightmare.

"Making his feature film debut, co-writer / director Jeremy Berg does a great job exploring the theme of suppressed memory, expertly playing the slow reveal regarding how Sam's past has come back to haunt her. It's this aspect of the film that proves most engaging, especially as Berg maintains an air of suspense even after you know what's causing the chaos. It's a premise that's been used countless times, but kudos goes to Berg for avoiding lazy clichés.

"On the negative side, some of the acting in *The Invoking* is fairly average – but, hey, that's

perfectly normal when it comes to low budget genre films. But, some wooden turns aside, Trin Miller excels as the tormented Sam, who runs the full gamut of emotions throughout the film, as does D'Angelo Midin who plays Eric – the creepily mysterious ex-vet who's been looking after the house – with tremendous restraint, as he flits between moments of menace and kindness. D'Angelo's character never reveals his intentions towards Sam, and the interplay between the two characters is what carries *The Invoking* and makes for a viewing experience that's more disturbingly chilling than out-and-out shocking.

The Invoking will be released on DVD on 12 May 2014.

99



WHO'S THIS?

Billy Chainsaw is *Bizarre's* Film And DVD Editor, and he also runs our regular FREE film club in London, CUT! (cast your eyes right to see what sick treats Billy has in store at the next screening).

IF YOU LIKE *THE INVOKING* YOU MIGHT LIKE *AMOROSA: THE REVENGE* (2012)

This weird Filipino flick kicks off with its title character, her husband and their two sons getting caught up in a hideous car crash that leaves the hubby dead. In an effort to get over the tragedy, Amorosa and the boys relocate. Unfortunately, the remote dwelling they choose is the stomping ground for a seriously pissed-off revenge-seeking spook.

a situation exacerbated by the fact that one of the boys hasn't been the same since the accident. Although far from innovative, the film is a well-directed and acted example of Asian ghost horror, decidedly aimed at fright fans down with the whole 'I see dead people' concept.



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BOOKS

THE BEST NEW READS ON THE SHELVES THIS MONTH

MITCH O'CONNELL

THE WORLD'S BEST ARTIST

Sexier than thou!



MITCH O'CONNELL



OUT NOW

WE'VE NEVER MET

Mitch O'Connell, but we imagine he'd be great company over a pint. Not only has the 'Prince Of Pop Art' named his biography / art collection *The World's Best Artist*, he personally contacted *Bizarre* to remind us that adjectives such as 'genius' and 'sexy' come in

campaigns, and institutions such as *Newsweek*. "I'd stand in front of the magazine rack, hording a hot-off-the-press issue and announce, 'Yup, that's my art on the cover of *Newsweek*!'" he recalls, like a kid high on sugar.

Not just a collection of O'Connell's best art, *The World's Best Artist* doubles as a concise, witty autobiography that gives readers an insight into the struggles of a freelance artist.

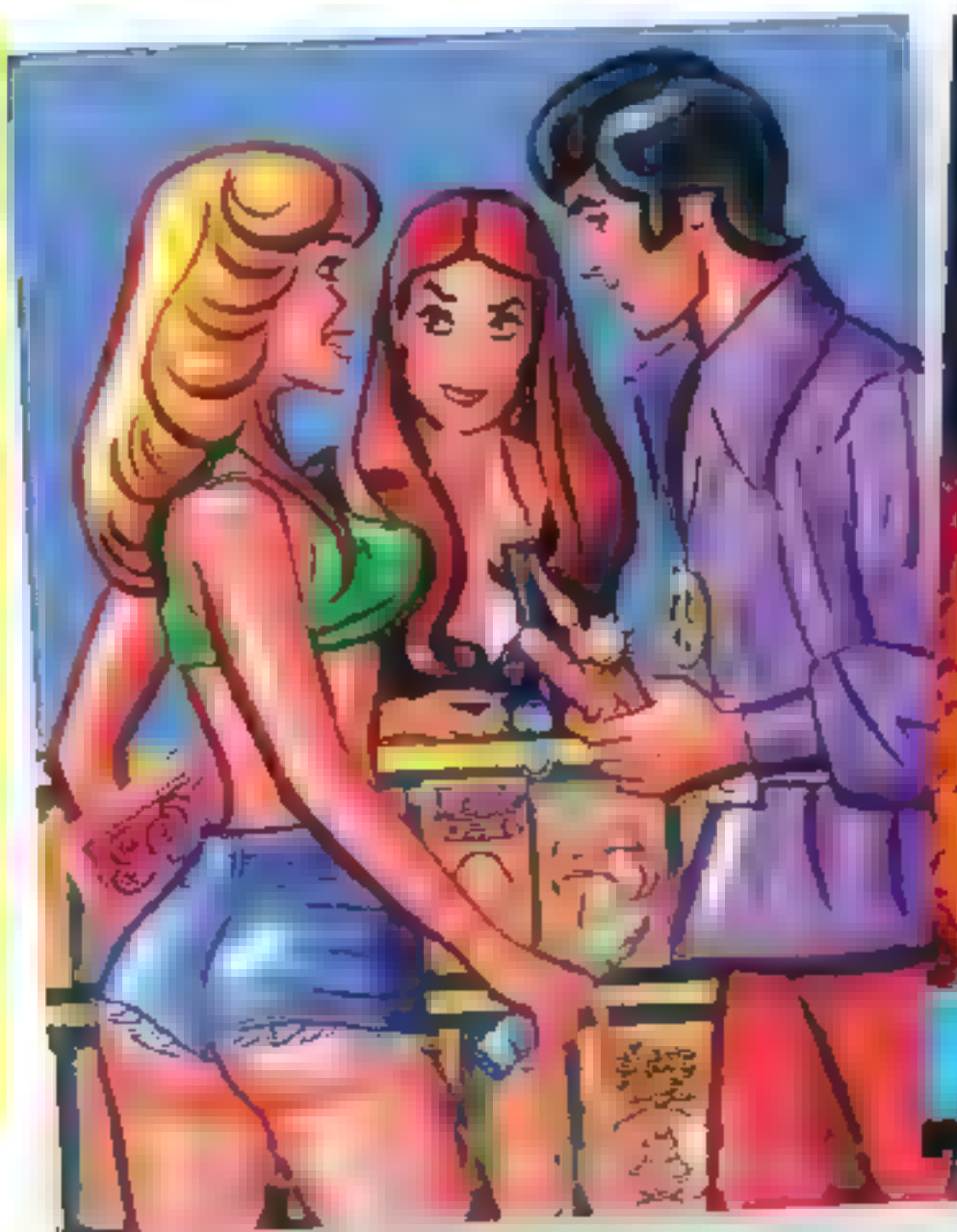
MITCH O'CONNELL'S WORK IS FLAMBOYANT AND MACABRE

handy when critiquing his flamboyantly thrilling and occasionally macabre work. Modesty? Pah, it's overrated!

Born in Boston, USA, in 1961, the monster-obsessed O'Connell originally wanted to be a Marvel comicbook artist. However, after enrolling at art school, he landed a staff gig at role-playing game company FASA, before having his outlandish creations published in *Heavy Metal* magazine, grot rags, advertising

Throughout, O'Connell portrays an impish arrogance and self-aware irony, but there's no escaping the fact that his art is awesome. From flash designs to John Walters posters, and from pervy art for *Leg Show* to his own crazy assed exhibitions, we're smitten with everything O'Connell's ever done. And the photographic tour of his home at the end of this book leaves us with major house envy. *Stephen Doolittle*

PICTURES: MITCH O'CONNELL. LAST GAS P.O.F. SAN FRANCISCO



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The frightful 1950s are alive!



OUT NOW

JOE SIMON AND
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history, famous for

giving superhero tales proper spunk,
hiring a young Stan Lee as an editorial
assistant, and creating Captain America
for Timely Comics, the company that
eventually became Marvel. The duo also
excelled in creating ghostly B-Movie
yarns, and that's where this latest
collect on from Titan's ongoing 'Simon
& Kirby Library' series comes in.

HORROR! features grisly tales from
the duo's then-controversial *Black Magic*
comic, which launched in 1950 before
being singled out by the US government
as damaging the nation's youth in 1954.

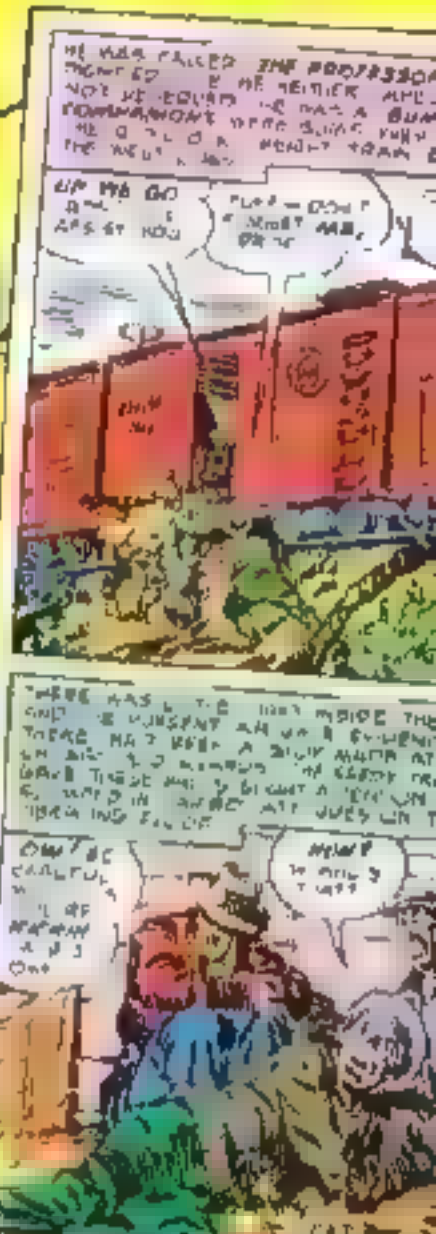
Featuring incomprehensibly
bizarre tales – from possessed mirrors
in hospitals and sharks with giant
tumours, to girls walking on water and
a 'Nasty Little Man' dishing out curses
on trains – **HORROR!** is packed with
some of the best vintage horror tales
we've ever read. And a special doffed
hat to the 'Send us Your Dreams'
section, where readers had their warped
visions dramatised and analysed in
comicbook form. Genius. **Stephen Dunne**

PICTURES: JOE SIMON & JACK KIRBY; TITAN BOOKS



Perhaps it's the weirdest coincidence -- or a lie! It was
shiftless character. But, isn't it strange -- How in count
of it's kind -- There is always the touch of truth -- and

NASTY LITTLE MAN



This picture: Retaliation - What & magnet E. Shiley.
A Key To Magic & The Occult Sciences. c. 1800

Right: Macrocosm: Star. A. Calverley. Horwaco
Macrocosmics, Amsterdam, 1960



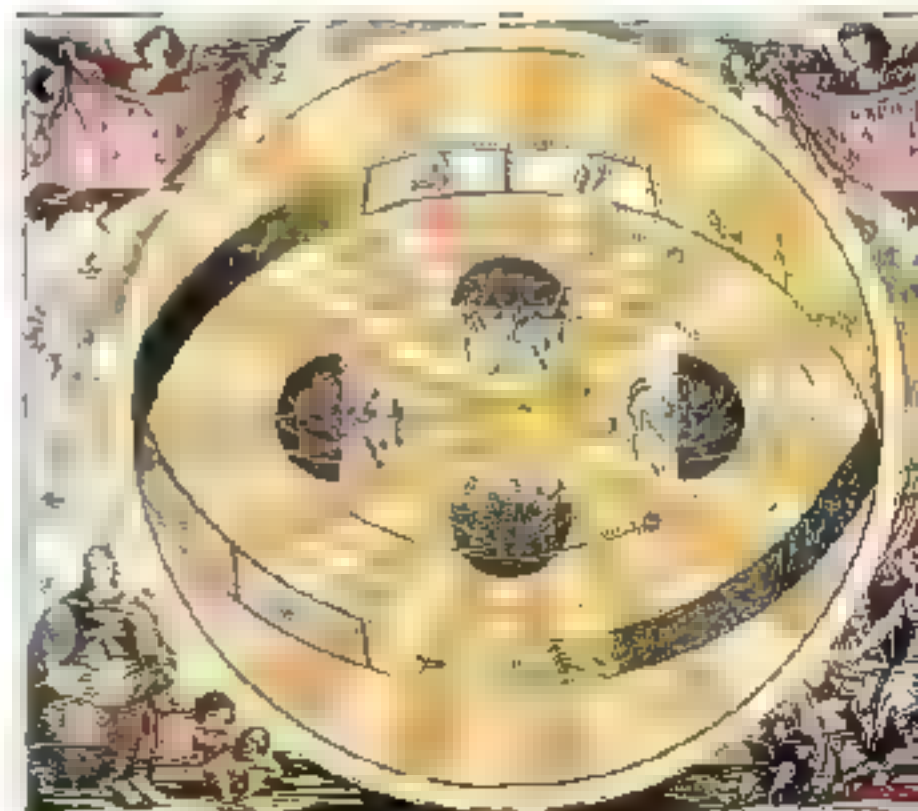
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medieval woodcuts, that offer an
involving study guide for anyone
interested in Christian mysticism,
esoteric symbols, and the strange
practice of alchemy. That this book
arrived right after we (re)watched
two films dealing with the subject
– Dario Argento's *Inferno* and Ben
Wheatley's *A Field In England* – is pure
coincidence. Or is it? **Stephen Dunne**





TUOMAS HOLOPAINEN

Finnish metallor unleashes secret Disney love...? Duck off!

MUSIC INSPIRED BY THE LIFE AND TIMES OF SCROOGE



OUT IN APRIL

MOST ALTERNATIVE musicians might occasionally make a concept album

inspired by an art house horror flick, sci-fi novel or a demented serial killer. But not Tuomas Holopainen. The multi-instrumentalist more widely recognised as the leader / founder of Finnish symphonic metal kings Nightwish, has based his first solo album on a 1990s Disney graphic novel, *The Life And Times Of Scrooge McDuck*, which stars his favourite cartoon character Scrooge McDuck. Yeah, that's right - the penny hoarding, tight-fisted Scottish feather-head who also happens to be Donald Duck's maternal uncle or something. But that's kinda pretty awesome too, right?

A predominately instrumental album, *MIBLATOS* isn't metal, but is the sort of sweeping epicness that might scoop an Oscar if it were attached to a tearful picture directed by Ang Lee. It's got soul-stirring melodies soaring over tumbling waves of orchestral drama, angelic girls Ahhhhhing atop puffy clouds, and sweet

lonesome strings swooping down from mountaintops to strike at the core of your heart. Oh, and there are wee hints of Scottish traditional music in there too, just to maintain some Highlands flavour. No doubt Scrooge McDuck will be nabbing all the royalties from its sales, though Bloody tightwad *Scrooge McDuck*



THE SKULL DEFECTS

DANCES IN THE ARMS OF THE UNKNOWN UNKNOWN



OUT NOW

Underground Gothenburg rockers TSD have come up with a cracker of a third album. The band, sometimes dubbed Sweden's Sonic Youth, have transformed repetitiveness and discordance into something weird and beautiful. Fuzzy riffs march off guitars like hypnotic incantations, primal beats punch holes into your skull, and ominous vocals carry more unsavoury power than a Derren Brown trick.

THE AMAZING SNAKEHEADS

RIOT IN THE ARMS OF THE UNKNOWN UNKNOWN



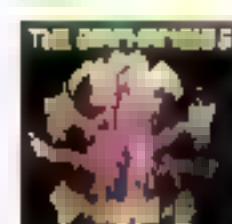
OUT 2 APRIL

On their debut Scott's newcomers TAS sound like Joy Division being

filtered through a 1950s B-Movie aesthetic, creating a ghoulish vibe that sits nicely with their garage-laden histrionics. 'Flatlining', for example, has a Peter Hook-style bass riff detuned so low it feels like it's being pulled underwater by the creature from the Black Lagoon. Add in some eerie brass and you've got a winner.

THE DIAPHANIDS

COMING



OUT MAY

This space psych-rock band is the work of two Italian songwriter-cum-producers. Andrea Bellentani, who

once wrote two songs for opera legend LUCIANO PAVAROTTI (hell, yeah!), and Simon Maccari, who worked on lots of dance hits in the 1990s. The drum-heavy astrolog cat-trippiness here sounds like it's caught it between an Indian head massage and a hip cocktail bar in Eastern Europe.

DEAD RIDER

CHILLS ON GLASS



OUT

Chicago's Dead Rider are a band who pick'n'mix many musical styles

(punk, spoken word, art funk and so on), without ever sounding contrived for the sake of originality. Instead, there's a strange brew that's equally screwy and artistic, catchy as well as challenging. As a loose description, imagine Primus, Saul Williams, Amon Tobin, and Scott Walker all jamming inside a typhoon.

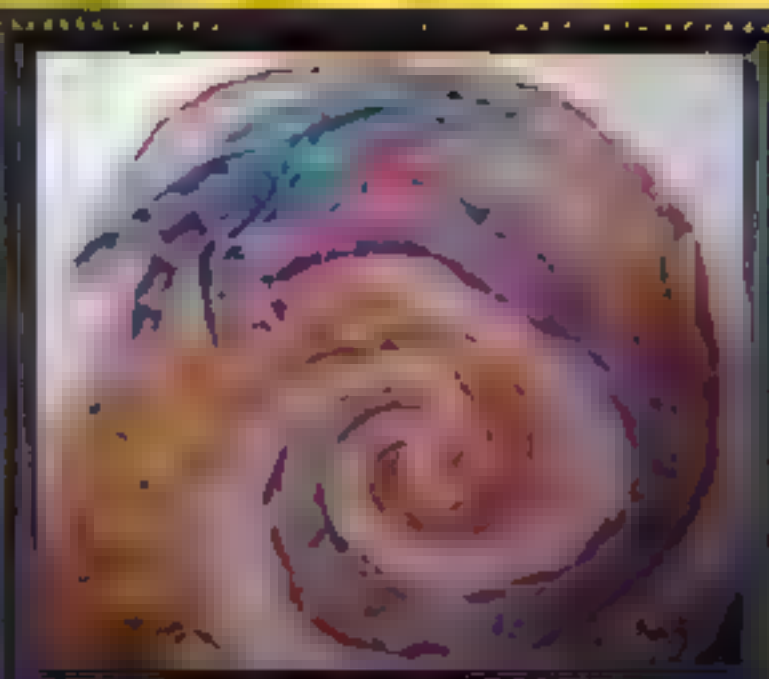
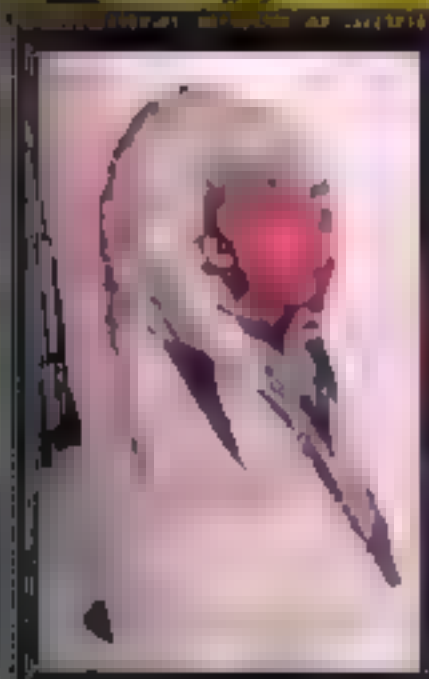
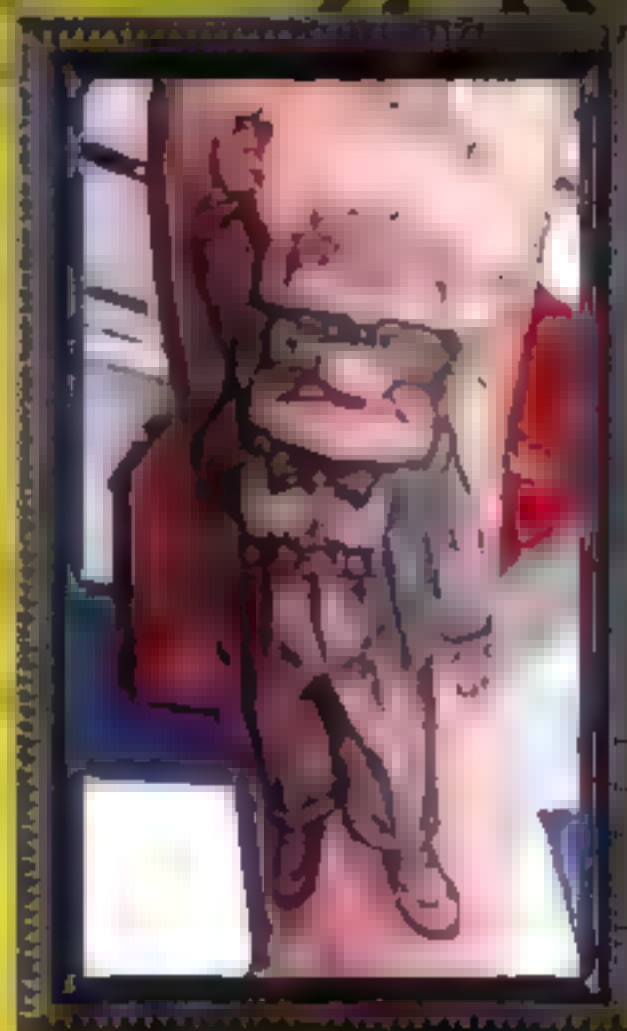
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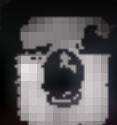


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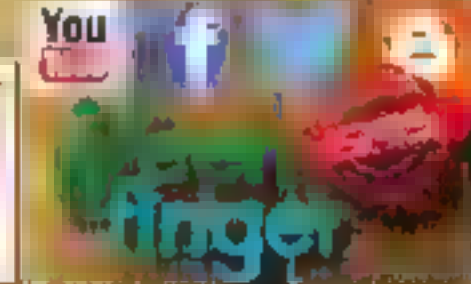
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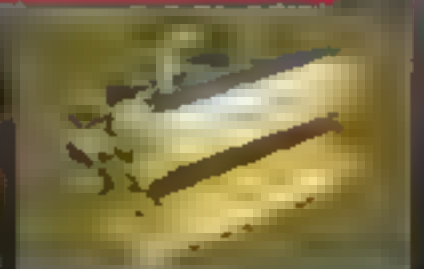
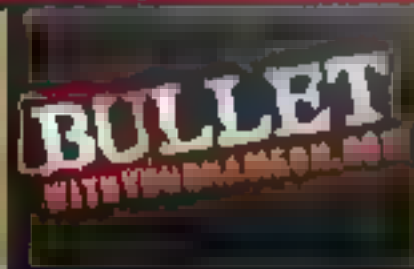
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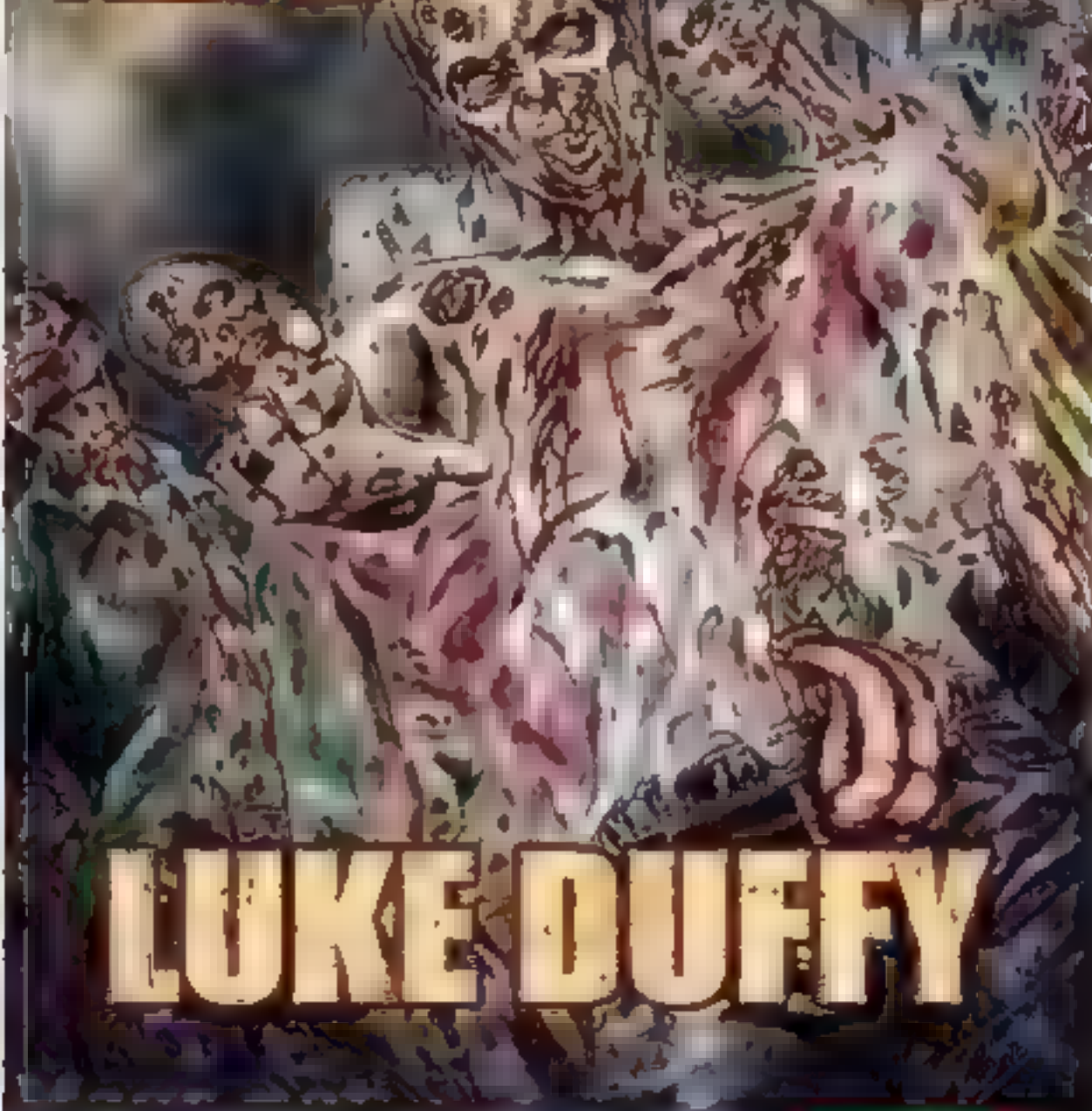
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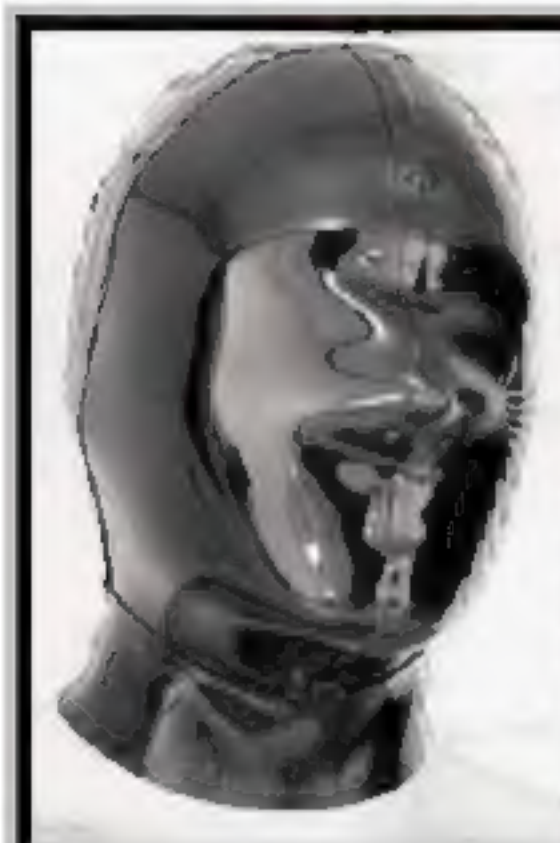
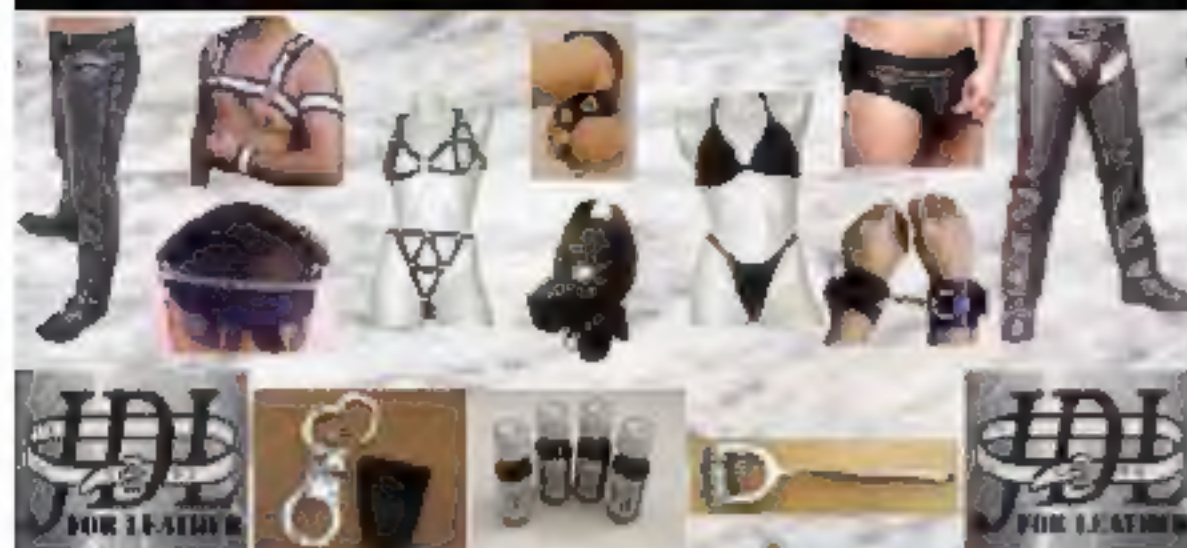
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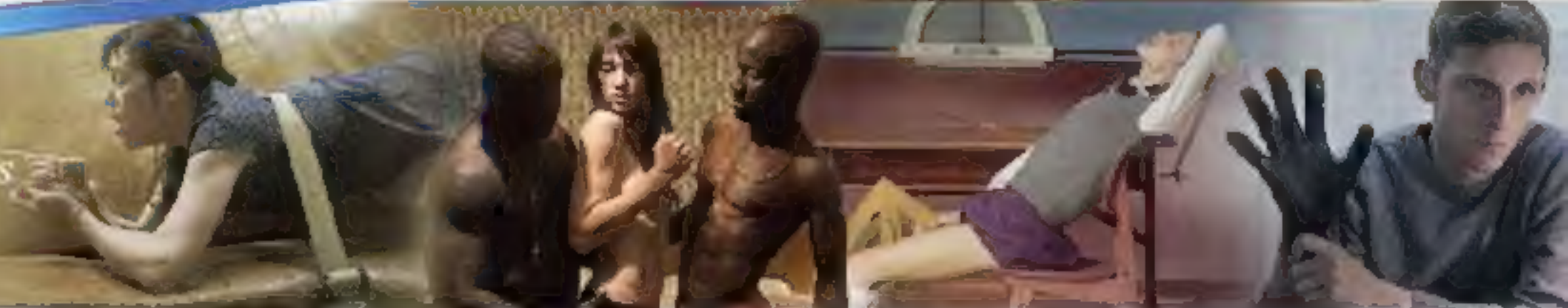
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